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TRANSACTIONS

OF

The McLEAN COUNTY (Illinois) Historical Society

Transactions

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

VOLUME II

Pt. 2

SCHOOL RECORD *of* McLEAN COUNTY

With OTHER PAPERS

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ing example of hard, faithful and intelligent labor." Here every experience of life was brought to bear on his work as a lawyer—and here, writes Benjamin F. Ayer,[1] "he rose easily to a commanding position at the bar and soon became celebrated as a consummate advocate, eloquent, powerful and convincing."

Here, too, "he was connected with some of the most important cases of the day and in both civil and criminal causes his almost unbroken record of success gave him great prestige."[2]*

Among the more prominent cases with which his name is identified were the defense of David A. Gage, defaulting treasurer of the city of Chicago, who was indicted for failure to pay over to his successor in office three hundred and sixty thousand dollars of public funds. This case was tried by change of venue at Waukegan, Illinois, and was a victory for Gage. "The telegraph flashed the result to the city and immediately, so great was the interest in the case, the news was in the possession of everybody. It was an unexpected result. The most sanguine friends of the man on trial did not dare hope for such a triumph, and the general public were simply astounded."[3]

Another important case was the defense of the officers of the Charter Oak Life Insurance Company at Hartford, Connecticut, who were charged with an attempt to defraud the policy holders out of the assets of the company, and of purchasing a majority of its stock, paying for it out of the company's money which

1. Ex president Chicago Bar Association. Chicago Legal News, July 13, 1889.

2. Editorial, Chicago Inter Ocean, June 9, 1889.

3. Chicago Times, December 5, 1874.

*The litigation which engaged Mr. Swett's attention at Chicago was generally so important as to require the services of more than one attorney and he appeared with other lawyers in the trial of nearly all cases, sometimes being employed to assist other lawyers in their cases; often choosing his own associates in litigation which he absolutely controlled, and frequently was selected by cautious or wealthy clients to represent their interests jointly with others. Such conditions are generally ignored by biographical writers, though common to the experience of all able lawyers.

Of his relation with other members of the bar, Judge Richard S. Tuthill has written: (Chicago Times, June 9, 1889). "In politics and in law Mr. Swett's sole aim was to win his case. He never thought of the figure he would cut before the public. He would as soon make the opening as the closing of a case. But wherever Swett appeared that place seemed to be the head. 'Where Sir Rupert sat was the head of the table,' and so it was with Swett in a lawsuit."

was of a nominal value of twelve million dollars. The case excited great interest, not only at Hartford, but throughout the country, as its policies were widely held.

The best legal talent in Connecticut appeared on both sides of this case which was hotly contested, but Mr. Swett as senior counsel for the defense, planned, directed and tried the case, his clients being acquitted.

The defense of the officers of the Protection Life Insurance Company at Chicago, was a similar case of importance and acquittal.

The Cook County Commissioners conspiracy cases of 1877, the Chicago Custom House stone fraud cases and the Chicago Court House stone fraud cases were others of a like character which were successfully defended and attracted general attention at the time of trial.

The Great Whiskey Conspiracy cases against the United States in 1876, which attracted national attention and resulted from a widespread attempt among western distillers to defraud the government of its revenue on spirits, reveals his great ability as a manager of interests.

Judge Richard S. Tuthill writes:[1] "He talked these cases over with me at the time, and told me the extent of the conspiracy to defraud the government. After indictments were found against his clients—who were thirteen in number—I asked him if he proposed to try those cases: He looked at me with that look so peculiar to himself, which meant so much and said, 'Those cases will never be tried. They are not the sort of cases to take into court.' He went to Washington and opened negotiations with the government. His great powers as a diplomat were shown by the result. All his clients escaped, many of them with their property, and none of them ever passed a day in jail. His conduct in these cases is a good illustration of the difference between Mr. Swett and Emery A. Storrs as lawyers. Mr. Storrs in these cases was pugnacious from the start, although many of his clients were deeper in the mire than Swett's. Storrs declared their innocence boldly. He wanted to fight the government, and he did fight, and he made a most magnificent effort, but the result was not what Swett accomplished."

1. Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.

Mr. Swett could, however, fight for his clients when he considered it best for their interests, and conspicuous among the annals of desperately contested cases may be mentioned the defense of Rodolphus K. Turner, a prominent lawyer of Quincy, Illinois, who was charged with the forgery of title to four hundred and eighty thousand dollars' worth of land situated in South Chicago. Mr. Swett defended Turner in two trials in both of which the jury disagreed, after which prosecution was abandoned. Judge William H. Barnum, who has written a history of this case says[1] it "bristled with almost all conceivable questions of real estate and criminal law, and particularly the law of evidence, was full of dramatic incidents, and to relate it in all its details would make a novel of many pages and unabating interest."

The Chicago Times[2] has also designated it as the "most remarkable litigation ever before a court in Chicago."

Mr. Swett's theory of this case was one of malicious prosecution, as Turner asserted his deeds were genuine and the criminal proceedings were directed by the paid attorneys of the parties holding adverse title to the land in question. A paragraph from an old letter written to Turner between the first and second trials reveals him as able to meet blow with blow when necessary.

Chicago, September 24, 1876.

"DEAR SIR:—If you wish to place your defense again in my hands, I must have it entirely under my direction, and from the time it is placed in my care I will listen to nothing but my own judgment until the case is closed; and if you do not feel entirely free to place your fate in my keeping do not do it at all.

"I wish also to select my associate counsel, and whatever my fee, I do not wish to proceed with the case on any other terms.

"The defense from first to last should be bold and aggressive; everybody should be attacked and no one should be spared. If under these circumstances, you choose to employ me we will have a full conference. Yours truly,

"LEONARD SWETT."

1. Goodspeed's Industrial Chicago, vol VI., page 768.
2. Editorial, April 27, 1879.

The Mackin Election Conspiracy cases of 1884 were also of national interest and "no trial," says Andreas in his History of Chicago,[1] "involving so many questions of interest and importance to the public generally, and which in its progress developed so many sensational features ever occurred in this state."

The defense of Peter P. Wintermute, a banker at Yankton, Dakota, for the killing of Gen. Edwin S. McCook at that time secretary of the territory; also the defense of Alexander Sullivan, secretary of the Chicago Board of Public Works, for the killing of Prof. Joseph Hanford, of the North Chicago high school in 1876. Both present fine illustrations of Mr. Swett's adroitness and skill in the management of murder cases.

The Wintermute case grew out of a senseless quarrel over a glass of liquor and public feeling was intensely bitter against Mr. Swett's client, who, after two trials, was cleared, writes Whitney,[2] against "light and knowledge as well as law and evidence," and was one of those "triumphs which were astounding to those who knew not the magnetism of the man and the seductive charms of his magic eloquence."[2]

In the Sullivan case the killing grew out of remarks which Hanford made concerning Sullivan's wife. The case hinged upon a delicate point of the law of self-defense and "the trial of no cause in Cook county was ever attended with greater interest and excitement than this."[3] The point at issue is thus described by Mr. Swett to the jury. "The circumstances of the killing, as charged, and the act of killing are both admitted. The motive with which the act was done alone remains, few will be the disputed facts even upon collateral points, but a human heart must be analyzed and the issues of life and death depend upon the accuracy with which you do it."

His speech in this trial is pronounced by Adams, in his life of Storrs, as the greatest of his life. That Mr. Swett felt the great responsibility of his position in this drama, where a human life hung as it were by a thread, appears in his closing words. "I am oppressed," said he, "by the solemnity of the occasion, and as I

1. Vol. 3., page 278.
2. Life on the Circuit with Lincoln, page 70.
3. Andreas' History of Chicago, vol. 3, page 253.

realize that a word by me injudiciously uttered or a false position assumed may put all my client holds dear at hazard, I appeal solemnly to that Supreme Providence which guides and controls every thought, for the o'ershadowing of His divine guidance and care. You will say to my client and his beloved wife, strickened and saddened scarcely less than the family of the bereaved, whether the angel of hope shall leave them forever, or whether through the darkness pointing she may reveal, 'beyond the clouds the sun still shining.' All that hearts hold dear are in the scales you balance, and as in the final trial, when all deeds shall be weighed, you will bow with fear but with hope—so humbly, but hopefully we bow before you and wait for deliverance."

It is difficult to convey to the reader an idea of the intense excitement surrounding the closing scenes of this trial. The daily papers devoted a large amount of space to each day's proceedings and the crowds in attendance constantly increased, till, says the Chicago Times, "it would have been as easy to turn a somersault in an oyster shell, as to have hung up a pumpkin seed edgewise in that concourse of men and women" who thronged the court room. The first trial closed with the jury standing eleven to one for acquittal, "the community in throes of excitement"[1] and a widely signed petition requesting the presiding judge to resign on account of certain rulings in the case which were supposed to be too favorable to the defendant. To this the judge replied, through the public press, that with a clear conscience he should hold the fort though the heavens fell. In a second trial Sullivan was acquitted and for many years thereafter the judge, Hon. William McAllister, continued to preside over the courts of Cook county.

"In America," writes Judge Thomas M. Cooley,[2] "we meet with few cases of lawyers of high standing and eminent ability who give themselves exclusively to the defense of criminal cases, and few of that class would find employment sufficiently steady and remunerative if they desired to do so,"—such was the experience of Mr. Swett and although he "was generally regarded as one of the ablest criminal lawyers of his time":[3] and "acquired

1. Chicago Times, October 27, 1876.
2. Cooley's Blackstone, vol. 1, page XXV.
3. Goodspeed's Industrial Chicago, vol. 6, page 863.

increased fame with each case,"[1] "he never engaged in a general practice of criminal law."[2] "His professional work was mainly directed to civil suits"[3] involving various applications of the law of persons, of property, of inheritance and contract. Notwithstanding such litigation was often connected with large private interests, brought excellent fees and required extensive research and untiring industry in preparation, caution, alertness and fertility of resource in the heat and strain of the actual contest, it generally lacked that interest to the public at large which so frequently attaches to criminal proceedings.

Among this class of cases as having more than ordinary interest may be mentioned the foreclosure of a trust deed for three hundred thousand dollars held by the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company against the grounds and buildings of the old Chicago University. The case involved a great lawsuit that was famous in its day for difficult problems of law and equity, and although the result was a victory for Mr. Swett's clients and the University was ruined; it was also the cause of its reorganization and the beginning of a broad and splendid career of usefulness made possible by the generosity of John D. Rockefeller.

In concluding this brief resume of his practice it may be stated that although, at times "he stood amid the wildest cyclones of public feeling that ever swept around the court room"[4] the career of no lawyer, perhaps, better justifies the assertion of that distinguished legal writer, Theopholus Parsons, that "there never was a case or a criminal that a lawyer may not defend with the knowledge that while he keeps the law with him he is safe in his reputation and safe in his standing in the community,"[5] for it has been said of him—"few lawyers ever deserved or enjoyed in a greater degree the respect and confidence of the bench or the esteemed good will of his professional associates,"[6] and "that no

1. Goodspeed's Industrial Chicago, vol. 6, page 863.
2. Judge Lawrence Weldon's unpublished address, delivered before the Chicago Bar Association, June 15, 1889.
3. Palmer's Bench and Bar of Illinois, page 474.
4. Judge Peter S. Grosscup, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
5. Neilson's Life of Rufus Choat, page 13.
6. Benjamin F. Ayer, Chicago Legal News, July 13, 1889.

victory of his long and brilliant career was ever stained with a suspicion of dishonorable motives or unprofessional practices."[1]

PERSONALITY.

The individuality of Leonard Swett as a trial lawyer was too subtle to be completely described. Judge P. S. Grosscup speaks of him as the typical lawyer of the Northwest, and adds "in every community there has been, at some time, one who stands as the figure of our profession; but the lawyers who, by a convergance of talent and opportunity, association and picturesque personality have made themselves the types of our profession to a large aggregation of communities, lived generations apart. Such men were Luther Martin, of Maryland; Jeremiah Mason and Rufus Choate, of New England; William Wirt, of Virginia; Charles O'Connor, of New York, and Leonard Swett of the Northwest. These men were accompanied from the dawn to the twilight of their careers, by lawyers of great learning and orators of equal brilliancy and fascination of eloquence; but their genius and the events upon which it was put forth; their personality and the men with which it was linked, made them the focal points of the profession. Leonard Swett, by the right of intellectual and personal conquest deserves to stand among these typical leaders of the bar."[2]

Other of his associates, who have been more specific, have included among his special gifts:

"A magnificent physical presence," "A noble face, brilliant eyes, mobile features, musical voice."[4] "And a quality of demeanor that cannot be described in words, but was a fascination that was felt by every one who came within his presence."[5] "Rare insight into human nature."[6] "A wonderful power of in-

1. James L. High, Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.
2. Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
3. Hon. E. B. Sherman, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
4. Henry S. Monroe, Esq., Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
5. Judge Lawrence Weldon's unpublished address, delivered before the Chicago bar, 15, 1889.
6. Benjamin F. Ayer, Esq., Chicago Legal News, July 13, 1889.

spiring confidence."[1] "Exquisite tact and judgment."[2] "A mastery of clear, plain statement."[3] Superb powers of analysis."[4] "Consummate skill in marshalling, grouping and interpreting evidence."[4] "A keen and incisive logic. Unsurpassed powers of persuasion."[5] "A fertility of recource often leading to startling surprises."[1] "Courage of the bravest character. A mental poise which never became clouded by excitement and passion."[6] "And a wide and varied knowledge of the law."[2] With these qualities, he united "a power to toil terribly"[7] and "a belief in all his causes—a conviction that right was entitled to vindication, and wrong to defense against over accusation."[8] He was also "absolutely the servant of his client and his cause,"[8] and whatever case he entered, whether of greater or lesser importance "he was there to work and to stay, and left nothing undone which legal ingenuity or professional skill could suggest to insure success,"[1] and though "often compelled to endure the unjust criticism of a hostile press, arrayed against the interests which it was his fortune to represent, no criticism however violent or bitter ever caused him to swerve from his duty or render less than the full measure of devotion which was due to the client whose cause he espoused."[5]

In the trial of a case it has been said "He seemed the very incarnation of frankness, honesty, and fairness. He took the jury into his confidence and skillfully concealing the process he employed appeared to be solicitous only to assist the chosen twelve by every means in his power in the discharge of their delicate and important duty."[9]

"From the moment the jury were impaneled until they retired to consider their verdict, every spoken word, every conscious

1. Henry S. Monroe, Esq., Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

2. Benjamin F. Ayer, Esq., Chicago Legal News, July 13, 1889.

3. Ezra M. Prince, Esq., Transactions McLean County Historical Society, vol. 1, page 422.

4. Hon. E. B. Sherman, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

5. James L. High, Esq., Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.

6. Judge Lawrence Weldon's unpublished address, delivered before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.

7. John J. Herrick, Esq., Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

8. Judge P. S. Grosscup, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

9. Hon. E. B. Sherman, Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

or unconscious gesture was directed to the paramount end of winning a verdict."[1]

"Trained to the profession when the jurisprudence of the state was in its formative period, and when published reports were few in number and causes were tried upon principle rather than precedent he was not a technical lawyer in the subtler learning of the books, but possessed the rarer faculty which sought in every litigation a central and underlying principle upon which the conflict turned, and upon this principle he fought the fight to the end."[1]

He loved his profession and though the warmth and poetry, the excitement, the elasticity and cunning of a trial were as essential to his enjoyment as the exercise of his muscles to a strong man, yet "to him the court room was the highest forum which our civilization has devised in which earnest men might contend for the vindication of character or for the triumph of justice."[1]

He also "discharged the duties of a barrister in full recognition of the fact that to the court, and the law he owed an obligation as important in its demands as the obligation of fealty to his client."[2]

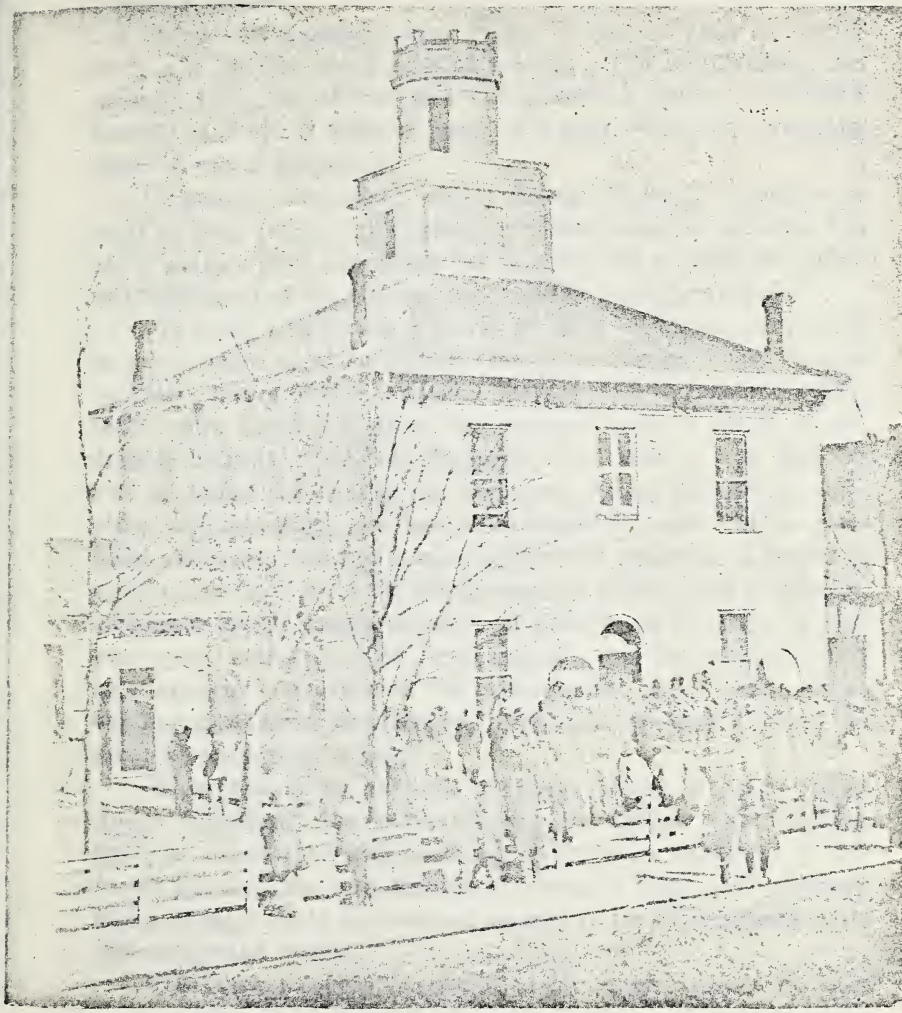
The pursuit of these ideals and the constant exercise of the qualities with which nature endowed him, the contests in early life with Lincoln, Baker, Logan, Stuart, and others "who made the early bar of Illinois the peer of any in the Union,"[1] and later his association "with a bar representing in its constituency lawyers dealing with the vast and varied interests of the great Northwest, a bar having in its professional keeping the wonderful city of Chicago, with its aggregation of commerce and of wealth, its diversified and complex development of moral, religious and political antagonism, a bar numbering in the past and present some of the brightest intellects of the profession,"[3] gradually lifted him through all the stages of a career which at last was pronounced "fully rounded and complete, measured by the highest professional standards."[4]

1. James L. High, Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.

2. Judge Lawrence Weldon's unpublished address, delivered before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.

3. Judge Lawrence Weldon's address before the Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.

4. James L. High, Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.



SECOND COURT HOUSE, BLOOMINGTON.

SPEAKER.

In no capacity did Mr. Swett appear to greater advantage than as a speaker.

It was not necessary, says Judge Weldon, [1] "That he should study and practice the graces of oratory. The commanding and majestic form, the natural and unostentatious diction of splendid thought, and the impressive tones of a rich, clear voice were the embodiment of eloquence."

"Whenever he spoke," writes Edwin Walker,[2] "whether to court or jury, political gatherings or conventions, his sole aim was not to make a good impression for himself, but to reach the hearts and judgments of his hearers, and thereby gain the victory."

"In great trials when life was at stake or innocence assailed he was inspired with the highest order of eloquence," [3] and on such occasions, writes James L. High [4] "no applause of listening multitudes could tempt him from the supreme issue to which he addressed himself. Self was forgotten, and thus it was that we who sat under the spell of his eloquence, judges and jurors, associates and opponents, saw before us something more than a mere hired advocate. We saw a man of splendid presence, of magnetic voice which could cover the whole range of pathos and persuasion, of simple Saxon speech, sturdy and massive as the form of him who spoke, and behind all, inspiring all, was the constant sense of a supreme conviction of the righteousness of his cause, which dominated all other faculties and made the crowning glory of the great advocate that he was."

When taking up difficult questions before a court, writes Judge Grosscup,[5] "he never allowed the subject under debate, however abstract or wide-reaching, to remain nebulous or diffused, but had the rare faculty of giving it body and boundary and holding it up to the intellect at once in its differentiated parts and integrated whole.

"He always caught a subject at its center and let no lines

1. Unpublished address before Chicago bar, June 15, 1889.
2. Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.
3. Peoria (Ill.) Journal, May 30, 1887.
4. Chicago Legal News, December 7, 1889.
5. Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

drop while examining any part. He could with skillful force press successfully each phase of a subject, and carrying the effect of his success to the next make it a contributing force in the attack.

"He thus gathered up and carried along the glowing forces of his argument until with irresistible force he hurled it as a mass at the final appeal."

In making arguments of this kind Judge Corydon Beckwith [1] says: [2] " 'He once did what no other man had the ability to do.' " Beckwith had a very important railroad case coming up in the United States circuit court before Judge Drummond, and had engaged Mr. Swett to argue it. Beckwith was suddenly notified late one evening to present his case the next morning at ten o'clock. Swett at this time knew nothing of the case, Beckwith sent for him, and told him what had been done. 'I can't argue the case,' said Swett, 'I know nothing of the facts, and less of the law of it." Beckwith knew both, and told Swett he must comprehend all before the court opened in the morning.

"They went to a room in a hotel, taking a stenographer with them. There Beckwith paced the floor and talked, while Swett listened and the stenographer wrote. It was an intricate and weighty matter, and it took Beckwith long into the night to present it. The next morning Swett argued the case before the court, and Judge Beckwith said it was one of the greatest arguments he ever heard."

On miscellaneous occasions of general interest to the public at large, the subject matter of his addresses was always excellent. "He required scarcely any preparation to make a speech on any subject," [3] and although his legal duties at all times were numerous and important, he nevertheless found time during all the years of his Chicago residence "to entertain and instruct large masses of people by public efforts not especially connected with professional demands." [4]

Conspicuous among many and varied public addresses were his speech of welcome on behalf of the governor of the state, to the

1. Ex-judge of the Illinois Supreme Court.
2. Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.
3. F. B. Wilkie, Chicago Times.
4. Thomas Dent, Esq., Chicago Legal News, June 22, 1889.

organization of Knights Templar, on the occasion of their grand triennial conclave at Chicago in 1879, when twenty-five thousand Sir Knights in glittering regalia, accompanied by the finest musical organization of the country marched in grand review, and the city received them in holiday attire.

An after dinner speech, on "The officers and soldiers of the Mexican War," delivered at a grand banquet, before six hundred members, and guests of the Army of the Tennessee, on the occasion of their assembling to welcome Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, then returning from his great trip around the world, was one of his most finished utterances. One hundred and fifty thousand strangers assisted the citizens of Chicago in making the occasion "the greatest ovation ever paid any American citizen,"[1] and perhaps no orator ever addressed a more brilliant assemblage in the United States.

The dedication of St. Gaudens' great statue of Abraham Lincoln, which faces the Dearborn avenue entrance to Lincoln Park, Chicago, was another interesting occasion in which Mr. Swett participated, delivering the oration of the day, at the joint request of the monument association and the Lincoln Park commission.

"Never since the night of the great fire of 1871, had Lincoln Park ever contained within the same area so many human beings as thronged its plains, clustered under its trees, and in every variety of vehicle crowded its roadways. Amid the roar of canon, the triumphal strains of national airs, the cheers of thousands, and the tears of many, the colossal bronze figure was unveiled, and the oration of Leonard Swett, Lincoln's old friend was worthy of the theme and the occasion."[2]

In forming public opinion, and in magnetic effect upon an audience, few speeches have surpassed two addresses delivered by Mr. Swett at Chicago in the spring of 1876, on the subject of Municipal Reform.

At the town election early in April, it was generally believed that the result was obtained by ballot-stuffing and fraud, and that corrupt rings existed for the purpose of plundering the city treasury. "Chicago saw the spectacle of its financial agent at New York and Boston, unable to borrow a dollar, confidence in the city

1. F. O. Bennett's Politics and Politicians, page 217.
2. Chicago Times and Tribune, October 23, 1887.

and its government impaired, and property had depreciated by millions for the want of honest government."[1]

A great mass meeting was held at Farwell Hall[2] to consider the state of public affairs, and Mr. Swett was invited to present the situation, and urge appropriate action by the citizens.

"It was rumored about the city that the meeting would be disturbed, and culminate in a riot, and such was the public excitement that ten thousand men of every political faith and condition of life prepared to welcome the attack.

"When the meeting was called to order not another human being could get into the building. The hall was jammed; men were packed until the movement of a muscle was impossible; and outside were five thousand others unable to effect an entrance.

"The audience which received Mr. Swett in the silence which precedes the possibility of danger and unknown events, quickly became transformed into a howling mass, as he delineated the condition of the city. As he reviewed the frauds that had been perpetrated the now thoroughly excited crowd rose to their feet and shrieked for the men who had swindled them. The gallery waved and creaked, and the floor of the auditorium groaned and resounded. The lights quivered, and a cloud of dust, stirred by the thousands of feet, rose to the brilliant chandelier and enveloped it in a mirky cloud.

"As Mr. Swett continued to portray the state of public affairs, the excitement increased, and when he put the question, what shall we do to emancipate ourselves from the rule of the swindlers? The building rocked with the response, hang them! hang them!! From mouth to mouth the sentence flew, thousands of clinched fists swept over the excited heads below; thousands of voices repeated the cry till it was taken up by the crowd without and swelled into a roar. 'Before we do anything let us reflect' said Mr. Swett. 'No,' cried a voice in the audience, 'hang them first and reflect afterwards!' and again a wave of passion swept over the assembly, and cries for vigilance committees, ropes and executions, drowned even the yells of those who could not wait for words.

1. Ex-Lieutenent-Governor Bross, Chicago Tribune, April 8, 1876.

2. The account of this meeting is taken entirely from the Chicago Times and Tribune of April 8, 1876.

"The audience had been worked up to a point that foreboded danger, and Mr. Swett stood aghast at the storm he had raised. Cautious as he was afterwards, he roused them twice again to a demand for action, and it was impossible to quiet them, and only after their lungs were exhausted, did they cease to cry for swift and sure retribution.

"Those who were at Farwell Hall that night,"—says the Tribune of the next day,—"will never forget the first hour of that meeting. It was not composed of a rabble, but of men from those stations of life where honesty is respected and integrity is inherent, and those who were present will not yield all hope when they reflect on what the expression really was."

The meeting finally adjourned without any demonstration on the part of roughs, who, if present, realized the necessity of silence, "and the citizens again assembled a few nights later at the Exposition Building, to perfect some plan of action in such numbers as to make it, perhaps, the largest assemblage ever gathered under one roof in America."[1]

"The brain and substance of the city was brought to a focus, and the meeting was literally the assembled community.

"As the people poured down the outlying streets the sidewalks were in a measure able to hold them, but after they reached the great confluent thoroughfares the sidewalks proved totally inadequate, and thousands took to the middle of the streets and thus, like three great uniting armies they passed in seemingly endless streams, into the structure, which is recorded to hold between forty and fifty thousand people. From the stage the scene was grand. The floor was one pulsating mass of humanity. The stair cases to the galleries were so choked that it was impossible for the crowd to move either way. Every box, every pile of lumber, every stick of timber was black with its load. Away up in the shadows above the lights, the girders, beams, trusses, stringers, and tees, held their load of interested men; literally from floor to ceiling the building was jammed, even along the edges of the sky-lights human beings were perched like birds. Men were

1. The account of this meeting is taken entirely from the Chicago Times and Tribune of April 12, 1876.

packed far beyond a speaker's voice, but were unable to extricate themselves. Mr. Swett was greeted with tremendous cheers.

"He spoke twice, once from each end of the building, which shook and shivered with the cries of the audience, the lights winked, blinked and fairly jumped, as cheer after cheer rang through the hall. A program was submitted to the people. A citizens' ticket was brought forward and at the next election most of its candidates were elected."

An address of an entirely different character—a tribute of love—was Mr. Swett's eulogy, delivered before the Illinois State Bar Association at Springfield in 1887, on the life and character of Hon. David Davis, of Bloomington, who for many years was one of the associate justices of the United States supreme court and senator from Illinois.

This effort has been characterized by Chief Justice Mellville W. Fuller, as "one of the ablest addresses of such a character ever made at any time, or in any country."[1]

Mr. Swett's last appearance in a prominent public place was at the national republican convention of 1888, held within less than a year before his death, where, as the spokesman of the Illinois delegation he presented the name of Judge Walter Q. Gresham, as a presidential candidate, "in an address of great eloquence and force."[2] "Intelligent readers everywhere" says the Boston Transcript, "will admire the speech. The sort of national administration which might be expected of Judge Gresham, if elected president, is all set down with the clearness of crystal."

LAST DAYS.

During the latter years of Mr. Swett's Chicago residence his health was, at times, seriously impaired by overwork, and the early summer of 1889 found him preparing to visit Europe for rest, and the treatment of a kidney difficulty which, though giving him some anxiety was not supposed to have reached a dangerous state of development, but had undermined his vitality to a degree unknown either to himself or friends, for with "straight figure,

1. Chicago Times, June 9, 1889.
2. Editorial, Chicago Globe, June 9, 1889.

brisk walk, keen eyes, and fresh, healthy complexion he appeared to be in the very prime of life."[1]

On the fifth day of June he enjoyed a horseback ride, which was his usual mode of taking daily exercise; on the sixth, he was about the city in a carriage; on the seventh, he felt somewhat indisposed, but transacted business at his house. He retired early for the night, laying aside the cares of the day without apprehension of the morrow, and sank gradually into a profound unconsciousness from which he never aroused, and on the eighth of June, at two o'clock in the afternoon, his heart simply ceased to beat, and the record of his life was closed.

FUNERAL.

The funeral of Mr. Swett "was one of the largest ever tendered a private citizen in Chicago, and a more distinguished audience never assembled in the city."[2]

The spacious auditorium of the Third Presbyterian church, where the services were held, was completely filled by representatives of the bench and bar, the clergy, the medical profession, every branch of business and industry, and all walks of life.

The various city, county, state, and federal courts, held at Chicago were all adjourned, and the judges present in a body.

The Chicago bar was largely represented and by its most distinguished members. And not least conspicuous among the audience was a delegation of Mexican War veterans, with whom Mr. Swett had fought the battles of his country in his youth, wearing badges of their association and of mourning.

Among the honorary pall-bearers were:

The governor of the state—Hon. Joseph W. Fifer.

Illinois' representatives in the United States Senate—Hon. Shelby M. Cullom, Hon. Charles B. Farwell.

The chief justice of the United States—Hon. Melville W. Fuller.

The mayor of Chicago—Hon. DeWitt C. Cregier.

Judge John M. Scott, of the Illinois supreme court.

1. Chicago Herald, June 9, 1889.
2. Chicago Mail, June 11, 1889.

Judge Walter Q. Gresham, of the United States circuit court.

Judge Henry W. Blodgett, of the United States district court.

Judge Murray F. Tuley, chief justice of the Illinois appellate court.

Judge Joseph E. Gary, of the Cook county circuit court. And conspicuous leaders of the Chicago bar.

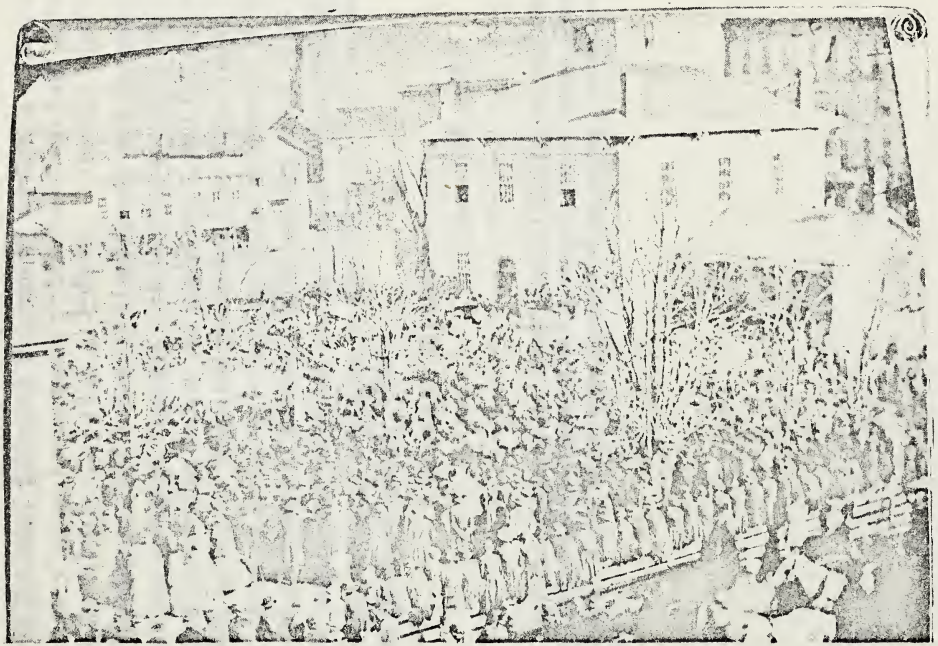
The scene and service were deeply impressive. The chancel of the church was almost buried in a profusion of palms, ferns and flowers.

The great audience rose as the funeral procession entered the church, bearing the casket from Mr. Swett's residence, and as the pall-bearers tenderly bore their burden down the aisle, and deposited it at the foot of the altar the organ filled the church with the solemn tones of a grand requiem,—as its last notes died away, the voice of the Rev. Dr. Withrow was heard reading selections from the Bible, after which he offered a short prayer, invoking divine comfort for the bereaved family.

Mrs. Heman's poem "I hear thee speak of a better land," a special favorite of Mr. Swett's, was then sung by Miss Pauline Rommeiss, her splendid contralto voice, rich and clear, reaching to the remotest part of the auditorium.

Dr. Withrow delivered a brief address of loving tribute to the memory of Mr. Swett, after which Mr. Allen Preich sang, "Asleep in Jesus," to the air of "Sweet Genevieve," his voice thrilling every hearer, as with each note true and clear as a bell he sang the beautiful song, and nothing could have been more appropriate.

The Rev. H. W. Thomas then delivered a funeral oration of touching eloquence, at the conclusion of which Dr. Withrow pronounced a benediction, and an opportunity was given the audience to take a last look at the familiar features of Mr. Swett. The lid was removed from the casket which was covered with wreaths of Jacqueminot roses, laurel, ivy, and snowy lilies. The immense congregation slowly wended its way past the bier; many eyes were moistened as they gazed upon the sturdy, rugged features. An occasional sob from some tender-hearted woman was the only sound which broke the silence, save the solemn pealing of the organ as the notes of Chopin's Funeral March swelled out under the masterful hand of Mr. Falk.



LINCOLN MEMORIAL MEETING, BLOOMINGTON, APRIL, 1865.

The procession was then formed and under the clear sky of a beautiful June day all that was mortal of Leonard Swett was borne to the last resting place at Rose Hill cemetery.[1]

On the Saturday following the funeral services a memorial meeting of the Chicago bar in honor of Mr. Swett was held in the United States district court room at Chicago. On this occasion a series of resolutions and a number of addresses were presented.

From these addresses, together with numerous articles which have appeared concerning him in the public press, and the private papers which he left the foregoing sketch has been prepared, without either desire or intent to convey any other impression of the man than the editorship of material which has been many years in print would justify, and which has in every instance been published without the knowledge, instigation or solicitation of any one connected with the family of Mr. Swett.

LEONARD HERBERT SWETT,

January 15, 1901.

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1. The above description of Mr. Swett's funeral is taken entirely from the Chicago daily papers—Times, Tribune, Herald, Inter Ocean, Globe, Mail, and News. All of which were represented by special reporters on that occasion.

JUDGE DAVID DAVIS.

Letter of United States Senator Daniel W. Vorhees to Leonard Swett on Mr. Swett's memorial address on Judge Davis.

"Your address on our mutual and beloved friend, David Davis, reached me yesterday. It seemed as if the past had returned, that you and I were young again and living over the scenes of thirty years ago, when the wisdom, wit, learning, lofty principles of duty and unfailing urbanity of David Davis and Abraham Lincoln captured our hearts and instructed our understandings. I have sometimes thought that you and I knew these two great men as they actually were unto themselves and inside that charmed circle where nature laid aside her restraints as well, if not better, than any others now living. They made such an impression on me as no other two men whom I have met in the tide of time or of whom I have read in the wide realms of history. You are right from the beginning to the end in your estimate of Judge Davis. He was a very great man in every respect. He was weak and untrue in nothing. I am tempted to write a great deal about him and may do so some day.

HAMILTON SPENCER.

BY HIS SON HENRY D. SPENCER.*

Born, April 18, 1815. Died, June 23, 1891.

George W. Curtiss, the Washington Irving of modern American literature, in his satire of New York society called "Potiphar Papers," gives this advice: "It is a terrible thing one would say, to a mind of honorable feeling, to be pointed out as somebody's son, or uncle or granddaughter, as if the excellence were all derived. It must be a little humiliating to reflect that if your great-uncle had not been somebody, you would be nobody. That, in fact, you are only a name, and that, if you should consent to change it for the sake of a fortune, as is sometimes done, you would cease to be anything but a rich man. 'My father was president, or governor of the state,' some pompous man may say. But, by Jupiter! king of gods and men, what are you? is the intuitive response. Do you not see, our pompous friend, you are only pointing out your own unimportance? If your father was governor of the state, what right have you to use that fact only to flatter your self-conceit; take care, good care; for whether you say it by your lips or by your life, that withering response awaits you, 'then, what are you?'"

There is no doubt but what this advice is most excellent, and every one would do well to heed it, even when speaking of his wife's relations. Some men when they fail to attain prominence by inheritance, try to do so by marriage. Nevertheless, I shall attempt to make a sketch of my father, Hamilton Spencer, limiting

*Henry D. Spencer, son of Hamilton and Mary F. Camp Spencer was born November 29, 1854, at Wainfleet, Canada, west. Educated in the Bloomington public schools, graduating from the High School in the class of 1873. Studied law at Wesleyan Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1876 and has practiced his profession ever since at Bloomington. Married May Rogers, daughter of Jason Rogers, at Decatur, Illinois, September 2, 1886.

my remarks only to those parts of his career which are of a historical interest, more especially to those which relate to the local interests of this community. The discussion of his life and character, his ability as a lawyer, his characteristics as a "gentleman of the old school," I shall leave for others.

Hamilton Spencer was one of the oldest members of the Bloomington bar. He was a native of Madison county, New York, and was born near Utica April 18, 1815. He was a son of Joshua A. Spencer, who stood in the front rank as an attorney in the Empire state, and was a descendant of Samuel Spencer, who emigrated from Sheffield, England, and landed in Salem, Massachusetts, in July, 1633. Hamilton Spencer moved to Utica, New York, when a child. At four years of age he started to school. At six years of age he commenced to study Latin. At thirteen years of age he had prepared himself for Hamilton College. His health, however, was precarious, and his father sent him with a guide, to camp out for two years in what was then known as "John Brown's Tract," now known as the Adirondacks of New York. Upon his return, he completed his college course, and graduated from Hamilton College in 1834. Soon after he took up the study of law in the office of his father, and on the day he became twenty-one years of age, his father, Francis Kernan, who afterwards was United States senator from New York for eighteen years, and himself formed a partnership, which partnership continued until the removal of Hamilton Spencer to Bloomington, Illinois, in June, 1854.

During the long and successful career as an attorney and counselor, Mr. Spencer became acquainted with a large number of energetic, far-seeing Americans, and in connection with several of these, at various times, he assisted in the management of a number of enterprises, which have since grown to vast magnitude and importance. He was the associate of the late Samuel V. Farwell, one of the principal contractors for the construction of the Erie canal. He was one of the first board of directors and superintended the construction and establishment of the Utica Cotton mills, which is one of the largest institutions of its kind in the United States. He was one of the constructors and original stockholders of the railroad from Utica to Rochester, now a part of the New York Central railway. He was also connected with

an enterprise in Utica which manufactured optical instruments. They made a telescope for Hamilton College, with a six-inch lens, which, when constructed, was the largest and finest telescope in the world. He was one of the organizers of the United States, and also of the American Express Company, and as an officer of one of those, he traveled all over the state of Illinois, visiting every town of importance, renting the needed buildings, employing the necessary help, ordering the necessary equipment, to establish the business in Illinois.

The firm of Spencer, Kernan & Spencer had a very large practice, and in those days it was customary for the attorneys to travel from town to town, and try cases in the different courts, as was done in this state in the early days of Lincoln and Douglas.

In 1841 Mr. Spencer suffered from a bronchial trouble which became so distressing and alarming in its effects, that he sailed to Cuba for his health. There he stayed for nearly two years. While there, the owner of a large sugar plantation invited him, with nearly one hundred others, to take a cruise on a new sugar boat which he had just received from the builders' hands, and which had never been loaded. The vessel was known as a "clipper ship," one of the type which was distinguished for remarkable speed, and great carrying capacity. These gentlemen spent more than three months sailing among the West Indies visiting every one of them of importance, from Martinque and Barbadoes on the east, to the Isthmus of Panama and the Peninsula of Yucatan on the west. After finishing his visit in the West Indies, he went to New Orleans, then he sailed to Mobile, at which point he purchased a horse, and started north alone on horseback. A gentleman had agreed to accompany him, but his courage failed, and at the last moment he decided not to go. Mr. Spencer came north to Cairo. When he reached the banks of the Ohio river, he found the river at a flood stage, running with a strong current. He fastened his traveling bag on top of his saddle, and taking the horses tail in his teeth, swam the Ohio river. When asked why he took the horse's tail in his mouth, he answered, "Young man, in those days it was very important to land at the same point on the river bank that your horse did. The river was considerably over a mile wide, my horse could swim over four feet to my one. I think it likely we swam four or five miles before we got across

the river. If the horse had landed away from me on the opposite side, I would have had to walk the rest of the distance." From Cairo, he followed the present line of the Illinois Central railroad, but gradually branched off to the west, and went over into Knox county. There he selected and entered a large quantity of land for a friend of his, James Knox. The county which was laid out was called Knox county, and the county seat which was established Knoxville, in honor of his friend. Afterwards Mr. Knox and others shipped to Knox county a large number of emigrants, selling at a small advance alternate sections or parts of sections, hoping to increase in this manner the value of the unsold land. This was the common method of land speculation in those days. From Knoxville, Mr. Spencer rode to Peoria, from there to Bloomington, which at that time was a mere village, then to Champaign, Danville, Indianapolis, etc., then to Utica, New York, his home. When he reached his father's office, his father was busy drawing a paper. His father looked up and said, "I am busy, sir, take a seat please." Mr. Spencer remained standing. His father said rather impatiently, "I am very busy, take a seat; I will talk with you in a few minutes." "Well," said Mr. Spencer, "if my father does not know me, I will go up and see mother." He had left Utica, New York, two years before, thin in flesh, with little or no color, and the appearance of a permanent invalid. He had come back tall, rugged, "brown as an Indian," with all the evidence of perfect health, and it is no wonder that his father did not know him.

On his trip through the south, he paid the expenses of his "entertainment," as it was called, at the various inns or farm houses where he stopped over night, with Spanish gold, no gold was circulating in the south and west. In Alabama they paid him as change money issued by the state banks. When he crossed the Mississippi, the money of Alabama was not good, and he paid his entertainment there in Spanish gold. When he reached Tennessee, the Mississippi money was not good, and gold payments were repeated. So again in Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and New York. By the time he reached home, he had between $200 and $300 in money issued by the different state banks of the states through which he had traveled, which was worthless. It was a practical experience and expensive lesson of the value of

the currency of state banks. He was a victim of the "wild cat" money so called, which prevailed throughout the United States at that time. It is unnecessary to say that he was a strong supporter of the national currency the rest of his life.

At the time of his removal to Illinois, he, with some of his friends, organized the first stage route for the purpose of carrying the government mail to California. I have in my possession the map prepared by the government at that time specifying two different routes over which the mail should be carried, upon which they were expected to make separate bids. One route started from St. Louis by the way of Pueblo, Colorado, and the other started from St. Louis, but went by the way of Santa Fe, New Mexico. The government selected the southern route for the reason, as they then supposed, it would be impossible to carry the mails over the northern route in the winter time on account of the snows. This stage line was operated successfully until the Pacific railroad, by offering better facilities and obtaining the government contract for the California mail, caused the company to go out of existence.

In 1854 he came to Bloomington to take the position as manager of the Alton & Sangamon railroad. The circumstances causing him to come here were as follows: The state of Illinois, through its officials, seemed to think that by requiring all railroads to terminate at Alton, it could cause a city to grow at that point which would rival, if not exceed in magnitude and importance, the city of St. Louis. For that reason, no railroad in the southern part of the state was then chartered to run further than Alton. A charter had been obtained for the construction of the Alton & Sangamon railroad, which was to run from Alton to Springfield. Mr. Henry Dwight of New York city, had advanced to the constructers a large sum of money, and as they were not able to complete the road, he was compelled to take the unfinished road in order to protect himself. Being fully acquainted with the experience of Mr. Spencer in the management of large enterprises, he employed him to come here and take charge of this enterprise. Mr. Spencer reorganized the road, and incorporated the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railway Company. He completed the road from Springfield to Chicago, and for a number of years operated the road, making the connection between Alton & St. Louis by a line of steamboats. Afterwards he succeeded in

getting the right to extend the road from Alton to East St Louis. He purchased the ground in Bloomington and located the shops of the road at this point. The principal offices of the road were all here during his administration, and at that time Bloomington was one of the leading railroad centers of the state, the Illinois Central having been constructed through Bloomington several years before.

While operating the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis railroad, Mr. Spencer was one day talking with Mr. George W. Parke, who then had a grocery store on the west side of the public square in Bloomington, about where building No. 214 is now located. Mr. Parke complained about the delay to which he was subjected in getting freight from New York city. It was the custom then for men to buy groceries on four months' time. As soon as the purchaser received an invoice of the merchandise which he had ordered, he immediately accepted drafts drawn on him at four months' time, which generally accompanied the invoice, or he gave his notes for the amount of the invoice payable in four months with interest after maturity. Mr. Parke stated that frequently his notes would fall due before the goods would reach him, being over four months on the road. Upon inquiry, Mr. Spencer learned that the goods would go by sea from New York city to New Orleans, they would be unloaded in a warehouse, and stay there indefinitely. After a while they would be loaded on a river steamer and come to St. Louis. Then they would be transferred to a warehouse, and stay there a while, when they would be transferred to a small steamer, and come by the Illinois river to Pekin. There they would be subjected to the delay of another warehouse, after which they would be hauled in wagons to Bloomington, reaching the city over what is known as Market street. Mr. Spencer considered the complaint of Mr. Parke for a long time. He visited Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Albany and New York city, and after a good many conferences, he went to the merchants of St. Louis and the merchants along the line of his railroad, and made this proposition. He would deliver freight to the consignee within twenty days from the time it was delivered to his agents in New York city. The rate to St. Louis to be $2 per hundred pounds. For each day's delay he would make a rebate of five cents per hundred, and all claims for damages he would pay himself, upon

proof of the claim being made, and would collect the damages from the road which caused them. In those days no railroad company paid damages, except such as were caused by its employees. If a merchant in St. Louis had a claim against the New York Central railroad, he would have to go to New York state to prosecute his claim. The result was that no claims were prosecuted against the railroads unless for a considerable amount, for the reason that the merchants could not afford the expense of leaving their business and attending to the claim. This proposition of Mr. Spencer's met with ready approval, but the merchants doubted his ability to deliver the goods in the time specified, and strange to say, it was some time before he could get an order for freight. His first order came from a dry goods merchant in St. Louis, who had purchased about two car loads of goods from A. T. Stewart & Co. of New York city. As soon as Mr. Spencer was advised of the fact, he went to New York, and when the goods were delivered at the dock of the "People's Line" of steamers for shipment to Albany, he had the boxes and bales marked, "Through freight; transfer at once." The goods were placed on the steamer and started to Albany the day they were delivered. Instead of having the goods taken to a warehouse, as was the usual custom in those days, where goods would lie until they got in the way, and were reshipped only to get room, he had them loaded upon drays, and taken immediately to the railroad station, and started that day to Niagara Falls. The Grand Trunk railway started from Niagara Falls, but was a different width of gauge from the New York Central, so the goods had to be transferred from one car to another. The usual way was to transfer them from the cars to a warehouse, out of which they came when it suited the convenience of its keeper. In this instance, he had the railroad cars run alongside the cars of the Grand Trunk railroad, and the goods were transferred from one car to another, and were started for Windsor, Canada, the same day. At Windsor they were ferried across the river to Detroit, and immediately taken to cars of the Michigan Central railroad. The management of that road were in hearty sympathy with Mr. Spencer in his efforts to build up the freight business. Instead of putting the cars in the freight train, the road had them switched in between the engine and the baggage car of the regular passenger

train, by means of which they were sent over the "Joliet Cut-off" to Joliet, Illinois, thus avoiding the transfer and delay in Chicago. At Joliet, Mr. Spencer had them switched to a passenger train. The Michigan Central and the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis railroads being of the same gauge, and the cars immediately started for St. Louis. The goods reached St. Louis, as I recollect, in either ten or twelve days.

When Mr. Spencer's proposition was made to the merchants of St. Louis, all the freight agents in St. Louis declared that it was impossible, goods could not be shipped so long a distance in twenty days, and they succeeded in keeping back a great deal of the business up to this time. After this shipment reached St. Louis, one of these agents went to the merchant who had given this order for freight, and told him that "Spencer's scheme" amounted to nothing; it could not be done. "You had better let me have your freight, and I will bring it to you as I have been doing for a number of years, etc." The merchant replied, "A few days ago I received an invoice from A. T. Stewart & Co. for certain goods. Yesterday I received from Mr. Spencer the goods that I ordered. I do not care if it is impossible for Mr. Spencer to carry out his contract, I have received the goods that I ordered in good condition, and that is all that I ask." It is unnecessary to say that after that shipment Mr. Spencer's road had almost all of the New York freight for St. Louis. That was the first fast freight line ever operated in America, now they are numbered by the score.

In 1856 through central Illinois there was a frost in August which killed the corn until it was as dead as it usually is in November. The result was that the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis railroad had no business. The farmers had nothing to sell, and the merchants had nothing with which to buy. The business fell off until the receipts were about $27,000 per month and the operating expenses of the road were about $117,000 a month. This frost was followed by the panic of 1857 which paralyzed business, ruined trade, and swept fortunes out of the hands of the most conservative. By that panic Mr. Dwight lost all his interest in the railroad, and it passed into other hands. Mr. Spencer then resumed the practice of law. Because of his wide experience in the various branches of business I have hinted at, he was counsel

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in cases of every kind excepting criminal law. For that branch of the profession he had a great dislike, and though often requested to defend criminal cases, he invariably refused.

In politics Mr. Spencer was a democrat, taking the stump in the interest of his party. While he was not considered a great orator, he was, on account of his wide and varied experiences, able to entertain and amuse his hearers. He had a great command of the English language, being also a student of Latin, Greek, Hebrew and French, and had the happy faculty of expressing himself clearly, and with accuracy. During the war, he was known as a "war democrat" and was opposed to the doctrine of secession. His influence was always in support of the Union.

In June, 1891, he and his wife were visiting their daughter, Mrs. John C. Scovel, who had located in Chicago. Mrs. Spencer returned home, but Mr. Spencer remained, expecting to return the next day. About one o'clock in the afternoon of June 23, 1891, while crossing LaSalle street at Washington street he was struck by a cable car, and was knocked down upon the granite pavement. His body was bruised in a number of places, but his head was severely bruised by the blow received from the granite block pavement. He revived under the doctor's care sufficient to give his name and address. He was taken to the Cook County Hospital, where he died about seven o'clock that evening of hemorrhage of the brain. After he reached the hospital, and gave his name, he became unconscious, which lasted until his death.

August 5, 1840, Mr. Spencer married Mary Frances Camp, of Sackett's Harbor, New York, who still survives him. She was the daughter of Elisha Camp, a prominent citizen of that state, and a colonel in the war of 1812. Mr. Spencer was the father of six children, four sons and two daughters, as follows: James D. Spencer, who was a member of the McLean county bar, and died in 1879; Katherine Spencer, the wife of James S. Ewing of this city; Clarissa Spencer, the wife of John C. Scovel, of Chicago; Hamilton Spencer, Jr., who graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign, and died in 1873; Henry D. Spencer of this city, John Seymour Spencer, a resident of Minatitlan, Mexico.

It is possible that what I have said is subject to the criticism that I have said too much. That is doubtless true, but the life of a man who has lived seventy-six years in modern America covers

an epoch of wonderful interest, and when the relationship between that man and the writer is as close and dear as in the present case, it is exceedingly difficult to tell how much to leave out. Hamilton Spencer saw the first steamboat ever constructed. He rode over the land covered by the Empire State Express in a stage coach. Afterwards, he was interested in the construction of the Erie canal, the greatest canal in this country, which parallels America's greatest railroad, and rode in what was known as a "packet boat" fitted up for passengers exclusively, with the sole motive power of the plain uncomplaining mule. He saw the first locomotive constructed. He saw the advent of the telegraph, the telephone, the postage stamp and the envelope, the sewing machine, the cylinder printing press, the power loom and the electric motor. He saw the steamboat and stage line give way to railroad traffic, and in fact had seen all the great improvements perfected, which have made the nineteenth century the greatest in the history of the world. With his education, it is interesting to speculate upon what a story he might have told, if he had been so inclined, of what he had actually seen in his career of seventy-six years; upon what he could have written of the marvelous changes in the commercial, political and social life in the United States.

I will close this sketch by quoting a paragraph from the Daily Pantagraph of Wednesday, June 24, the day after Mr. Spencer's decease. The paragraph is headed,

"His Last Speech."

"Scarcely had his eloquent words died away, before Hamilton Spencer had been called to answer the final summons. One week ago Saturday night when the bar bid farewell to Owen T. Reeves as a judge, Mr. Spencer was an honored guest. At the table he replied to the toast, "Legal Practice Fifty Years ago," and his reminiscences were eagerly listened to. He knew Aaron Burr, Joseph Kent, author of Kent's Commentaries; Daniel Webster, William H. Seward, John Van Buren, son of the president, and many others. Roscoe Conkling studied law with Mr. Spencer, and the latter knew more noted men of the last half century than perhaps anybody in this vicinity. His last speech will long linger in the minds of those who heard it."

Address by Hon. Lawrence Weldon* on Hamilton Spencer.

HAMILTON SPENCER.

In addition to what has been so well and modestly said by the son of Mr. Hamilton Spencer, I desire to say that it is a just and well merited tribute to the memory of a remarkable man.

It was my good fortune to have known him for more than a third of a century, and during all of that time I was in the most pleasant and intimate relations with him.

I remember distinctly the first time I met him; it was in the year 1858, when he was in charge of the Chicago & Alton railroad. I was attending court in Bloomington, and he came into the court room to consult General Gridley in a case against the company. Although his hair was gray, he was in the vigor and prime of manhood, and attracted my attention as one of the most elegant looking men I had ever seen.

I knew of him from having heard Judge Davis and Mr. Swett speak of him in the most flattering terms of admiration.

I recall that in a short time thereafter, I think in 1860, Mr. Swett and I were conducting litigation in DeWitt county against the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and among the many grievances of our client, he had one against the company for failure to build an underground crossing, and as he was telling us the facts in the case, I remember Mr. Swett interrupted him by saying, "Mr. Allen, Mr. Weldon and I have not the experience in and knowledge of chancery law required by the complications of this case, and I suggest that you furnish me the facts and I will

*Lawrence Weldon, born in Ohio in 1829, moved to Clinton, Illinois, in 1854, and in 1867 to Bloomington, where he has ever since resided; was United States district attorney for southern district of Illinois from 1861 to 1866, and has been associate justice of the United States Court of Claims from 1883 to the present time.

lay them before Mr. Hamilton Spencer, and if he thinks the suit can be maintained I will have him file a bill against the company."

The result was Mr. Spencer filed an elaborate bill in chancery in the DeWitt circuit court, to which a demurrer was interposed by Mr. Lincoln and Mr. C. H. Moore. What became of the proceeding I do not now recall; my recollection is that the case was settled, to the satisfaction of our client. I do recollect most distinctly, the clear, cogent and wonderful presentation of the case to the court by Mr. Spencer. In his argument you could discern the traits of a well balanced mind, educated in the perfections of statement, by the force and influence of an education, not only in the law, but that higher and better mental discipline which comes from the effect of an early training in the schools.

It was a great misfortune to the bar of the state of New York, that Mr. Spencer's health became impaired shortly after his admission to practice. He would have been a worthy representative of that long line of distinguished lawyers and judges of the Spencer family, which has conferred upon that state, in the department of the law, such marked distinction.

In consequence of the failure of his health, in a few years after coming to the bar, as stated by his son, he was compelled to travel, and afterwards to seek that outdoor exercise and employment demanded by the condition of his health. As a result of that necessity, he became identified with the railroad and express business, which was the immediate cause of his emigration to the west, and his settlement in the city of Bloomington, now over forty-four years ago. I recall his description of the trip referred to from Mobile, Alabama, to Utica, New York, by the way of Illinois. He was a most interesting talker, and the description of the country and the privations which he endured were as entertaining as anything of that kind I ever read or heard. He went from Knoxville to Danville, passing through Peoria, Bloomington and Urbana; I think it was in 1842.

How strange are the vissicitudes and changes in life! Little did he think, as he rode through the village of Bloomington, then quiet and perhaps unprepossessing, that this would be his home for more than thirty-seven years; that here his children would

be born, grow to manhood and womanhood and that here, at last, he should lie down in the unvexed silence of the grave.

Mr. Spencer had both talent and genius; they mixed in him in such proportions that he could understand anything that he studied and investigated. And when, from the necessities of his physical condition, he was compelled to seek the outdoor, active, physical world, the same power that made him capable of understanding the metaphysical, enabled him to comprehend the physical. So when he undertook the railroad business, he comprehended beyond the line of the ordinary operator, and as you have heard from his son, he was a pioneer in the introduction of measures of reform and convenience.

I have credible information that he was the first to suggest and introduce the system of through checks, by which you are enabled to check your trunk in the city of New York and without fear or trouble get it at the depot in Bloomington. He was an expert in all railroad matters, and I have heard him often and often in the court room, when called as an expert witness, testify with such clearness and knowledge as to excite the wonder and admiration of the court and bar. After the failure of the Chicago & Alton road (through no fault of his), of which he was the manager, he became identified with the bar of this county.

From the time of my location here until his death he was what might be called a barrister, that is, he had lawyers for his clients. He would be employed in difficult and involved cases, by other lawyers, who well knew his knowledge and ability to deal with the complicated questions of an involved lawsuit.

In the paper of his son a reference is made to his having been a member of the firm of Spencer, Kernan & Spencer. In the year 1880 I had occasion to go to Washington in a matter pending in congress, and took from Mr. Spencer letters to Senators Kernan and Conkling. I recall, when I presented my letters to Mr. Conkling that he received me with great consideration by saying, "I am always glad to meet a friend of Mr. Hamilton Spencer. I read law in his and his father's office and it is one of the most cherished distinctions of my life." He then commenced and delivered upon Mr. Joshua A. Spencer the most complimentary eulogy that I ever heard delivered on a lawyer, and as he closed he said, "By the way, Hamilton Spencer, himself, was well

worthy of such a father." He then paused a moment and said, "Hamilton wrote a bill in chancery in the case of ————, which I undertake to say has not been surpassed in force, aptness and clearness of statement by any document filed in any case in any court in the state of New York." When I came home I had forgotten the name of the case and Mr. Spencer did not recall it, as he had written so many bills in chancery.

Although Mr. Spencer did not become a citizen of Bloomington until the year 1854, after the location and projection of the Chicago & Alton railroad, and did not, strictly speaking, belong to the leading and influential men who had contributed to the development of the city and county before 1854, he was most efficient in many instances in directing influences which resulted in public benefits to the city and county.

At the time he became identified with the Chicago & Alton Company, he selected Bloomington as his home, located here permanently, and it is safe to assume if he was not the cause of making this place prominent in the line of the road, he was instrumental in the location and development of that great system of shops, which has been the most important department of industry in the city of Bloomington. After the destruction of the shops by fire, there was a strong disposition on the part of a number of the directors of the company, to remove them to Chicago, and again the efficient agency of Mr. Spencer was called into requisition to prevent what to this city would have been one of the greatest calamities that could have happened. He understood the situation, so far as the interest of the company was concerned, as well as any man connected with the road, and, believing as he did that the location was a proper one, I have no doubt his presentation of the matter to the board of directors contributed in a material degree to the success of Bloomington. His connection with the company and the consequent influence of his position exerted in our behalf, entitles his memory to grateful recollection by the people. He had the power of persuasion and argument in the highest degree, and in the presentation of a matter his scope of information was such, his faculty of expression so accurate, simple and clear, that it to the honest and unprejudiced mind, was sure to carry the consequences of conviction and acquiescence.

I recall an incident connected with a public institution which the citizens were endeavoring to have located in Bloomington, and, as you will readily remember, Mr. Jesse W. Fell was always in front when anything was to be gained for Bloomington; and in that connection he came to me with a paper in which he had attempted to elaborate the reasons why this city should be selected. He was very much dissatisfied with his own production; he remarked he could not get it in proper shape and wanted me to prepare something.

I said to him, "Mr. Fell, if your genius has failed, I don't think I will undertake it." Mr. Fell having failed, as he thought, I said to him, "The forlorn hope has to be carried, and if Mr. Spencer is not adequate to the situation we must abandon the thought of putting on paper an argument of our cause."

"Ah!" said Mr. Fell, "a good suggestion." We went immediately to Mr. Spencer and talked with him a short time and the result was he prepared a statement of the matter which satisfied us that none better could be made.

Many times after that when papers were to be prepared in advocacy of some public improvement, Mr. Spencer was called upon to perform the service, which he did with remarkable ability. He was always modest in the expression of his views upon such matters, and never sought prominence in the movement, but when a position was assigned him he discharged its duties with promptness and cheerfulness.

Mr. Spencer in early life gave unmistakable premonitions of his capacity and ability. I recall, in this connection, the traditions of him at Hamilton College, as I heard them from two distinguished graduates of that institution. Judge Scofield, for many years a member of congress from the state of Pennsylvania, and to the end of his life my associate on the bench, entered Hamilton the year that Mr. Spencer graduated, and, although he never knew him personally, he well remembered the traditions of him which were rife on the tongues of professors and scholars of that school; and the Rev. Dr. William A. Bartlett, a very distinguished divine, although attending school several years after his graduation, still heard the praises of his character as a scholar.

At the bar he was one of the most courteous of gentlemen, never forgetting, even in the excitement of the hottest contest,

the amenities of the profession, whether to the opposing counsel or to the court.

He was by nature and education a gentlemen and it took no deliberation or forethought upon his part to be polite and courteous. Politeness was the instinct of his being, the gravitation of his nature. The constitution of his mind was better adapted to the duties of the judge than the contests of the bar. He had an intellectual poise which lifted him above all prejudice and preconceived opinion, which is the indispensable qualification of a great jurist. He could honestly investigate and determine, free and untrammeled from the force of prejudice. During the years when the litigation of the circuit court was much more than the labor of one judge could perform, he was selected by the attorneys to try many cases, and day after day he sat either in the court room or grand jury room performing the functions of a court.

In social life he was one of the most companionable of men. The extent of his acquirement and the accuracy of his information gave him a variety of conversation that rendered his presence both agreeable and profitable.

In my association in Illinois and in Washington it has been my fortune to meet many men of most distinguished position, and without flattery to his memory, I can with truth say that in the capacity to converse with knowledge and ability, upon subjects applicable to the time and occasion, I never met his superior.

He never assumed to know what he did not perfectly, and if he gave an opinion on a matter it was based upon information which he thought trustworthy and reliable. He had a great taste for reading, a wonderful memory and the ability to talk in the choicest language, which made him a charming conversationalist.

His father being a distinguished lawyer at the time of his admission to the bar, he was necessarily brought in contact with not only the leading lawyers of New York but the United States. His reminiscences of the New York bar were very interesting. He was on terms of professional intimacy with Governor Seward, Charles O'Connor, John Van Buren, James T. Brady, Daniel S. Dickinson, and appeared in cases in which they were interested as attorneys.

His father was United States attorney for New York under the Harrison-Tyler administration, and as such had to deal with the very important and delicate case of Alexander McLeod, who was indicted in New York for murder.

In the latter part of Van Buren's administration, which terminated in March, 1841, an insurrection broke out in Canada against the authority of England, the object of the movement being to establish the independence of Canada, and then to become a part of the United States by annexation. The movement had considerable force and as a result of that condition many Americans, especially from the state of New York, crossed the border and identified themselves with the insurgents.

The "Patriot War" of Canada, as it was called, received great sympathy in the abstract in the United States, as well as material aid in the way of men and money. The government of the United States sought by every means in its power to preserve the neutrality of the citizens, but the governor of New York was not at all suspected of being enthusiastic in his efforts to prevent citizens from crossing the river and engaging in the rebellion.

During the troubles a small steamer by the name of "The Caroline," plying between the American and Canadian shores, engaged in the transportation of passengers and merchandise, became suspected by the English authorities of being engaged in carrying supplies to the insurgents, and the result was that on a dark night, either British soldiers or citizens who were on the side of the English authorities, clandestinely came across the Niagara river, cut the boat loose from the American shore and sent it adrift over the falls. It happened, without the knowledge of the assailing party, that at the time there was a man asleep on board the steamer who was drowned. The destruction of the boat and the loss of life created great excitement in the United States, especially in New York, where the "Patriot War" was very popular. In consequence of the destruction of the boat and the death of the man on board, the matter became the subject of international controversy between the United States and the government of England. Mr. Webster was secretary of state at the time, and conducted with great ability the correspondence on the part of the American government.

A man by the name of Alexander McLeod was indicted as the leader in the state court of New York for murder, and after some time he was arrested in the United States and put in jail on that charge. His arrest brought on international friction.

The government of Great Britain avowed the act and threatened if McLeod was held criminally responsible they would hold the United States amenable for a violation of the law of nations.

A great deal of correspondence took place between the secretary of state and the prime minister and the condition was on the very verge of war.

Mr. Joshua A. Spencer, being the United States attorney, in company with his son, Hamilton, went twice to the city of New York to consult Mr. Webster on the McLeod case. Mr. Seward was governor of New York at the time and was determined to try McLeod and, if convicted, to execute him.

The situation was dangerous and complicated. The United States was not in a condition to determine what was to be done, as the crime was one against the laws of New York, and the people of New York were demanding the trial, and if guilty, the execution of McLeod. The result was a happy termination for all parties. McLeod, by the most unimpeachable testimony, proved an alibi, much to the satisfaction of the United States and to the disgust of New York.

Mr. Spencer's narration of the interviews and consultation between Mr. Webster and his father was verv interesting. I received from his narration of those interviews a more satisfactory description of Mr. Webster's person and manner than from any other source of information. The consultation, of course, was between his father and Mr. Webster, but he was a part of that historic occasion, at which were discussed some of the greatest questions of constitutional and international law by master minds of legal philosophy.

I recall in this connection a similar instance of his coming in contact with one of the most distinguished and notorious men of the early history of this country. The city of Utica, after New York, Brooklyn and Albany, was, in the youth and early manhood of Mr. Spencer, a place of great importance in the judicial department of both the national and state governments, it being one of the places at which the supreme court of the state was held

and the circuit court of the United States. They had at the bar of that county, with Mr. Joshua A. Spencer as its leader, one of the most distinguished bars of the state; and in consequence of the sessions of the federal and state courts the most eminent men of the profession in the United States was to be seen in the city of Utica. Among others who attended was Aaron Burr, then in the close of one of the most remarkable careers of any man in the United States. Besides being among the leaders of the bar, he had been Vice President, senator and within one vote in the house of being President, and to cap the climax of his checkered career, he had been one of the most notorious defendants that had ever appeared in the criminal dock of any age or country, having been arraigned and tried for high treason against the United States before Chief Justice Marshall. Mr. Spencer as one of his reminiscences recounted how he, a young man, assisted Burr in his father's library in making a brief. Burr, tottering with age in the blight of great fame which once made him an honor to his country and the ideal of a great party. Mr. Spencer said he had never known what the perfection of politeness was until he met Aaron Burr.

Beyond the discharge of his duty as a citizen in voting and the advocacy of the principles in politics, identified with what he thought to be the best interest of his country, he had no inclination or ambition. He was naturally conservative and on the dissolution of the whig party he joined the democratic. In politics as in all the other relations of life, he had no bitterness or animosity, and while he would criticise he never abused or traduced his opponents. To conclude this brief mention of his virtues it is but just to say in the mournful tragedy of his death he left surviving him the good name of husband, father, friend and citizen, bequeathing it as a rich legacy to a family well worthy of the inheritance.

He was my friend, faithful and just to me, and although I have imperfectly performed the duty assigned me, I embrace the opportunity to furnish this memorial to offer as a small tribute to his memory in the records of this society as the faithful chronicler of the good and worthy deeds of those who have gone before.

A Sketch of Honorable Robert E. Williams.

BY ADLAI E. STEVENSON.

Robert E. Williams was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, December 3, 1825, and died at his home in Bloomington, Illinois, February 15, 1899. Between the dates named lie the years that make up a long, active, valuable life. Mr. Williams' early educational advantages were only such as were common in the western portion of his native state nearly seventy years ago. In time, by his unaided efforts, he found his way to Washington College. From this institution he graduated at the end of a four years' course—having attained to a high degree of scholarship. One of his classmates was the late Honorable James G. Blaine, who retained for him to the last, a warm, personal friendship.

At the end of his college course, Mr. Williams taught school for a time and subsequently studied law in Richmond, Kentucky. In 1851 he located in Clinton, Texas, where for some years he practiced his profession with great success. He was, soon after his removal to Texas, elected to the office of prosecuting attorney for his judicial district. In the discharge of his official duties he was frequently brought in contact with some of the ablest lawyers of the state. That in him they found "A foeman worthy of their steel," no one who knew Mr. Williams could doubt. The duties of his office were performed with ability and fidelity. His practice, moreover, soon extended to the Supreme court—his name appearing as counsel in important suits in some of the early volumes of the Texas reports. Declining a re-election, Mr. Williams, at the expiration of his term of office, removed to Bloomington in 1856. This city was ever afterwards his home. He was thoroughly identified with its every interest. He cooperated earnestly with those who sought to lay the foundation for its enduring prosperity. In a word, he was, in the truest sense, a public spirited citizen, and could always be counted upon

in whatever tended to promote the interest or welfare of this beautiful city.

Chief among Mr. Williams' associates at the bar when he located here forty-four years ago, were men whose names will live with his in our memories and in our hearts: Davis,—the eminent jurist and statesman,—Scott, Orme, Hanna, Fell, Spencer, Gridley, Burr, Woodson, Holmes, Lamon, Swett, Stuart and Lincoln. Major Packard, for some years Mr. Williams' associate in the practice, is possibly the sole survivor of "the old bar." No higher meed of praise need be given the subject of this sketch than to say that in the relations of private life he was the associate and friend of those I have named, and that in the conflicts of the bar, the ablest ever found him a worthy antagonist.

In the exalted sense of the word, Mr. Williams was a lawyer. For the hard work of the profession—thorough and patient preparation of his causes—his mind was happily adapted. With industry untiring, an integrity to which there could be no temptation, the interests of clients were ever safe in his keeping. Thoroughly read in the common law, familiar with statutes and reports, he was indeed well equipped for the conflict. His aims were high; he magnified his calling, and believed, with Lord Brougham, that "the weapons of the lawyer should be those of the warrior—never those of the assassin."

He was ever the kindly, courteous gentleman. The struggles and sacrifices of his own early life made him ever the sympathizing friend and helper of the younger members of the profession. His achievements at the bar, the high place to which he attained, should be an incentive to young men ambitious of a career of usefulness and of honor in this, one of the noblest of callings. His success in life is a splendid object lesson of what talents and energy wisely directed may achieve along every pathway of honorable endeavor in this land of equal opportunity.

Mr. Williams was a lover of books—and in the truest sense a student of human affairs. He was the advocate of whatever in his judgment tended to the common weal. He had the courage of his convictions. No one ever doubted his position upon the momentous questions which, for a third of a century, agitated and divided his countrymen.

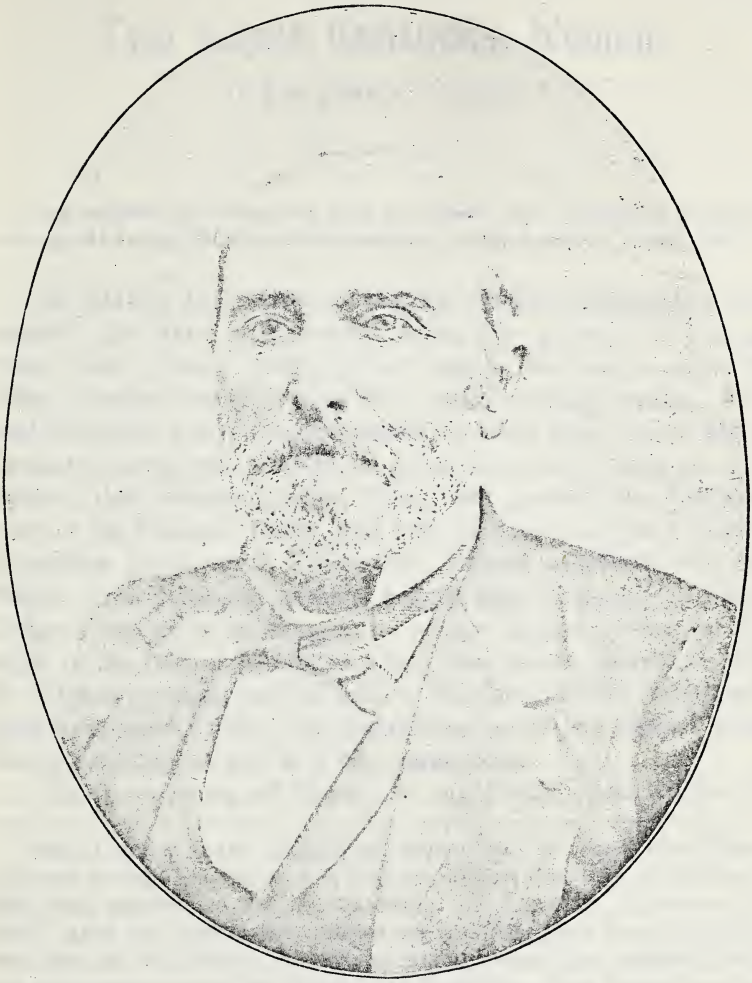
Once only after his removal to Bloomington was he an aspirant for public position—then the candidate of his party for the high office of attorney general of the state. Rarely have the issues of a political contest been more ably discussed than by Mr. Williams in the memorable canvass of 1868. At the close of his candidacy, in which he sustained defeat with his party, he retired from active politics and returned to the bar. But the brilliant canvass, to which I have alluded, was an earnest of the civic eminence to which he might have attained had his life been given to the discussion and determination of great public questions.

Mr. Williams was happy in his domestic ties; his was the ideal home. Blessed in all who gathered about his hearthstone, his cup of happiness was full to overflowing. All who crossed his threshold felt that they were indeed in the sunshine of the perfect home.

The last months of his life were shadowed by a calamity, the extent of which cannot be measured by words. In darkness, but cheered by the presence of the loved ones of his own household ever about him, he waited calmly and fearlessly the approach of the dread messenger. To such as he death can have no terrors. Faithful to every trust, with obligations all discharged, with record spotless, and his life fully rounded out—beloved and lamented by kindred and associates—he passed to the grave. To those "to whom his toils and cares were given" his memory will ever be a precious heritage.

As one who shared his confidence, and to whom he was both teacher and friend, I come and lay this humble tribute upon his grave.

"To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die."



HON. ROBERT E. WILLIAMS.

Two Loyal Kentucky Women.

BY MRS. LOUISA JACKMAN.*

An incident that occurred with my friend, Mrs. Martha G. Vaughan, and myself during the war of the Rebellion, in the month of March, 1863.

In March, 1863, General Pegram of the Confederate army, invaded the state of Kentucky, being the advance of a large force under General Bragg, which was on its way to enter the state; but who were delayed by heavy rains and high waters. General Pegram's army was represented as being from ten to fifteen thousand strong, and the Federal forces in the state being so much weaker, they retreated before them, and crossed the Kentucky river at the Hickman bridge, and went into camp at Camp Nelson. A portion going on to Nicolasville, Colonel Woolford with his famous First Kentucky cavalry, begged leave to remain at Camp Nelson; was given permission to remain until 2 o'clock on the night of the 28th of March; at which time he was ordered to burn the Hickman bridge, and fall back to Nicolasville. The bridge cost eighty thousand dollars. Its destruction would have been a great loss to the army, as well as to the community.

On the morning of March 26, my friend, Mrs. Martha G.

*Mrs. Jackman is the daughter of Henry West, for whom West Township was named. She was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in February, 1831, was married to Dr. H. Jackman, of Lancaster, Kentucky, in 1851. After the incident here related she was obliged to leave Kentucky, and came to her father's in McLean county, where she remained until the war was over, when she returned to Kentucky, where she now resides, at Harrodsburg.

She joined the Christian church at the age of fifteen. The Sunday school of her church offered a Bible as a prize for the pupil who would commit the most verses of the New Testament to memory. We quote her account of the contest: "From the first the contest lay between one James Green and myself. The first day we were not far apart, but I was ahead as I remember. I had 250 verses and it made me ambitious to try

Vaughan, came from the country where she resided, to my home in Lancaster, Garrard county, Kentucky. We had a consultation about the situation. She told me she had been up all night to keep the rebels from taking her two horses. She had let the officers have rooms, and while she guarded her horses, she overheard them talking; they said that they only had three or four thousand men, and if the Federal soldiers knew it, they would not run, but they were cowards. I told her I had learned as much the day before from the rebels, and would be glad to get the news to headquarters. So we agreed to mount her two horses, which she and her little boy had rode to town, and carry the news to Camp Nelson, and have the marauders driven from the state, for they were stealing all the horses and cattle they could find. So about ten o'clock on Thursday morning, we started, going through plantations and mud roads to avoid the rebel pickets, and try to gain the bridge if possible. We pressed forward as best we could, keeping away from where we thought there might be any pickets. The roads were almost impassable, it had rained almost continuously for many days, and before we got to where we were compelled to go to the pike, in order to reach the bridge, our horses mired, and we had to dismount and work them out of the mire. About this time we met with a colored boy, who was trying to keep out of the way of the rebels, as he said they had been trying to get him all day; he wanted us to take charge of him, and he would guide us to the bridge; but we had gone but a short distance until we run into the picket line, and was halted by a lieutenant, who called us to come across where he was. I told him

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to keep ahead. The superintendent read out the number of verses each scholar memorized each week for two or three weeks and after that he quit making out the number, and I could not know whether I was keeping ahead or not, but thought I was. Four weeks passed. I was spinning on a big wheel from sixteen to twenty cuts a day. I would lay my Testament on the head of my wheel and when I ran my yarn up on the spindle I would look over my verse and repeat it as I run back. This was the way I learned for four weeks. My brother told me if I would finish the New Testament by a certain day he would take me to make a visit I was very anxious to make, and I had only two weeks to complete the task, so mother told me I might leave off my spinning and have the two weeks to study, which I did and finished memorizing the New Testament in six weeks, for which I received a nice Bible.

if he had any more business with us than we had for him he could come to us, but deciding that prudence was the better part of valor, we rode across to him and stood a rigid questioning. But we were two old women who lived in the hills; we hardly knew there was a war, and did not know there were any soldiers in that part of the country. We were going to see our sick mother in Jessamine county, but we were turned back and got permission to go to Bryantsville to stay all night. We staid with a friend, who was a good Union man, and gave us the best directions for getting through farms and reaching the river, far below the bridge. We decided to try the pike first, and see if there was any chance to reach the bridge. When we had gone about two miles and a half, we met with Colonel Morrison, of a South Carolina regiment, who was in command of the pickets, and he very positively refused to let us go any farther; said if we were his grandmother we should not go any farther. So we had to go back, he going a mile or more with us. As soon as he left us we turned through a gate, and traveled through a large farm, coming out onto a pike near a cabin where a man was chopping wood. We rode up to him and inquired if there was any pickets near; and he, pointing to a church near by, said there was some of them there, but if we would keep down the creek, we could avoid them. After inquiring our names and being told when we came back that way we would tell, we left him, and having been directed to a Mr. William Overstreet, we started to find him. And after traveling about a mile and a half, we met a man who said he was out hunting news,and remarked that we were coming from a good direction to have news, and then asked our names, but before giving him news or telling our names, I asked him his name. He said it was William Overstreet, and as he was the man we were looking for, we readily told our names, and gave all the news we thought necessary. He then invited us home with him and gave us our dinner, and said he would go down to the river, which was near by, and try to make arrangements for us to cross, as the Federal soldiers had come down on the opposite side of the river that morning and destroyed all the small boats and rafts on the river, and gave orders for no one to be taken across.

Mr. Overstreet called to the pickets on the opposite side of the river that were guarding the only place where it could be

crossed for several miles; he told them there were two ladies who wanted to get to headquarters with important information; but when he came back for us, and we got to the top of the cliff, down which we had to climb, no one had come across for us, but seeing one of the pickets, he called to him and he went for the officer in command, and when he arrived he sent a man over for us with a small raft, not three feet wide, to take us across the river, which was swollen, and would have been out of its banks had not the cliffs been so high and steep. Mr. William Overstreet and brother helped us down the almost perpendicular cliffs (which we could not have climbed alone), and helped us on the frail bark, which was to land us in safety on the other side, or deposit us in a watery grave, which seemed more probable. I squatted down on the narrow raft, and taking off my bonnet and tucking it under my arm, and taking hold under each side of the raft, the water running across my feet, I commended myself to God, who was as able to keep me from harm in that perilous condition as if I had been on dry land. Those who were watching from either side of the river stood in silent awe while the man with one oar slowly rowed us across. When we touched shore and was lifted off the dangerous craft, such shouts were raised as made the welkin ring again and again. After we got over the river and up the cliff, I was so exhausted from excitement and exertion, that I remarked to the soldiers who had taken us in charge that I would be compelled to rest before going any further. He proposed for me to ride his horse, and spreading his blanket over his saddle and horse I mounted in the saddle and Mrs. Vaughan got on behind, and rode to a house, about half a mile distant, where we had been directed to go to get a conveyance to take us to the Federal headquarters. By this time it was raining in torrents (having commenced while we were crossing the river). We got a topless buggy and started, being escorted by a lieutenant and two soldiers and the young man who had let us have the buggy. By this time it was as dark as Egyptian darkness, and the men wishing to get out of the rain as soon as possible, said they would like to ride fast, if we could keep up. I, being the driver, told them I would drive as fast as they could ride. So we struck out through the woods, going in a long lope. Had it been light enough to see, if any one had seen us, they would have thought the whole rebel army was

after us. At length, about eight o'clock at night, we got to Camp Nelson, and inquired for headquarters, and was told it was a mile further on, and Major Owen heard the inquiry, and when told that two ladies had information for the commanding officer, ordered his horse and guided us to a Mr. Moss', where we were refused admittance by Mrs. Moss until Major Owen ordered her to stand aside and let us in. She then went back and sent her husband to find out our business. When we were ushered into Colonel Woolford's room there were several officers and others present, and when we had imparted all the information to the colonel, it caused a great sensation. Colonel Woolford and others went to the telegraph office, and dispatched to Lexington to General Gilmore, who was the commander, and wanted to start that night in pursuit of the rebels; but getting no orders, he came back mad, and went to bed. The next morning he got up very early and started to camp. He had gone a very short distance when he met a messenger with a telegram saying to have the floor of the bridge laid (as it had been torn up to prevent any one crossing), see his men had three days' rations and take the advance. So telling us to remain where we were until he sent us word and bidding us good-morning, he left in high spirits, delighted at the prospect of a skirmish with the grays. But the rebs concluded they had best retreat before they were given a surprise, and they began their retreat, before the Federals came up with them, and it was three days before they would make a stand; on the fourth day they were forced to make a stand, as the rains had swollen the rivers and they were past fording. So there was nothing else to do, and the battle of Dutton Hill was the result, the Federals being victorious, as they entirely demolished Pegram's army, killing many, taking many prisoners, and many were drowned in trying to cross the Cumberland river. They took a great deal of stock, returning many head to their former owners, and turning over a hundred thousand dollars' worth of property to the government. After Colonel Woolford left us at Mr. Moss' we tried to pass the time as best we could, as we did not know but we might have to stay the most of the day; but about ten o'clock a messenger arrived with word that we could come on, as the way would be clear. So the young man who let us have the buggy let us use it to get to Bryantsville, and there we

had friends who took us to Lancaster. Having left our horses with Mr. Overstreet when we crossed the river, we sent him word to send them to Bryantsville, and sent Mrs. Vaughan's son home with the man who took us to Lancaster, and he returned next day. When we left home we expected to get back the same day, but we were gone three days, and underwent many hardships, perils and dangers.

This statement is true in every particular.

The Charge of the Fifth Illinois Cavalry.

At Mechanicsburg, Mississippi, June 3, 1893. By THADDEUS B. PACKARD, Second Lieutenant Company C.

To adequately describe a cavalry charge has been the ambition and despair of all artists, poets, painters, orators, sculptors, historians, alike, but it remains to-day, as in the past, undescribed, indescribable. Here and there along the ages some inspired penman has been able to sieze a feature and has made himself immortal

Job's war horse "his neck clothed with thunder," that swallowed the ground "with fierceness and rage," "sitteth among the trumpets ha! ha! smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of his captains and the shouting."

Macauley catches something of the spirit in Naseby:

> "Their heads all stooping low, their points all in a row;
> Like a whirlwind on the trees, like a deluge on the dikes,
> Our cuirassiers burst in the walls of the accurst,
> And at a shock have shattered the forest of his pikes."

The reader will recall Victor Hugo's wonderful description of the Old Guards' disastrous, heroic charge at Waterloo; of the thirty-five hundred cuirassiers, veterans of Friedland, Jena, Wagram, Borodina, line after line of flashing steel, a half mile long; "gigantic men on colossal horses;" the sunken road two fathoms deep; horses and riders rolled in together pell mell, grinding each other, making common flesh in this dreadful gulf until it was full of living men over whom the rest passed on, hurling themselves in vain against the impregnable squares of the Iron Duke.

Tennyson has immortalized himself by the "Charge of the Light Brigade":

> "Half a league, half a league,
> Half a league onward,
> All in the valley of death
> Rode the six hundred."

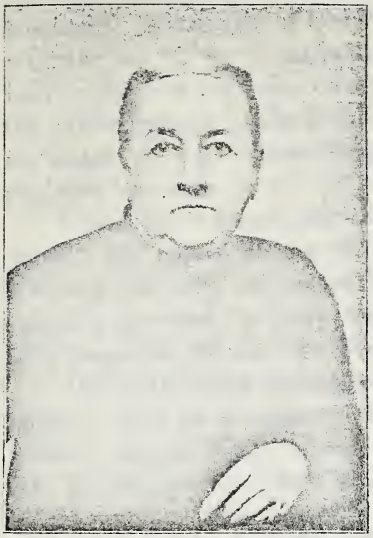
But they are only glimpses of the unpaintable picture and perhaps the participant in a cavalry charge is the least fitted of all to describe it; he is carried away by the fierce exaltation of the moment, by the overwhelming impulse of battle, the most completely overmastering feeling that ever took possession of man; it is no time for reflection, or to put one's thoughts in orderly array. Why then should a plain soldier, who makes no claim to literary skill attempt it? The impossible always tempts us; and McLean county had in the war of the rebellion over four thousand of as brave troops as ever marched to the sound of fife and drum, or answered the bugle call; in infantry, artillery, cavalry, in all arms of the service, in every rank from private to major-general, and that their deeds may not lapse from the memory of man, at the request of the McLean County Historical Society, I will attempt to describe an engagement and charge in which one of its companies bore a conspicuous part.

It was in the Vicksburg campaign, the most original, the most daring and successful in American history.

The Fifth Illinois Cavalry organized in the fall of 1861, one company, C, entirely from McLean county, had been continuously in active service in the west for nearly two years. The weak and infirm had dropped by the wayside; those remaining were bronzed veterans, thoroughly drilled and disciplined, commanded by brave and often tried officers. Calvary has been well termed "the eyes of an army." With adequate cavalry, properly commanded, the surprise of an army is impossible; even as late as July, 1863, our cavalry in the west was not in proportion to the other arms of the service so that we were on constant duty, scouting, foraging, fighting—but that was one of its pleasant features, as nothing is so irksome to a true cavalryman as the monotony of camp life.

I will now try to relate the engagement and charge of the Fifth Illinois Cavalry near Mechanicsburg, Mississippi, in the summer of 1863.

Our regiment was posted on Black River, Mississippi, and was kept almost continuously in the saddle between Vicksburg, Jackson and Yazoo City. General Pemberton was penned up behind strong fortifications in Vicksburg; in its rear was Grant's army protected by enormous earth works with saps and mines like



MRS. LOUISA JACKMAN.

DR. FRANK J. MITTAN.

PROF. JASON R. SIMER.

HON. JOHN M. STILLWELL.

tentacles, stretching out with ever increasing length towards the fated city. In the rear of Grant's army was Joseph Johnson ready to strike us, if for a moment our vigilance or courage failed. Every soldier in the union army from the commanding general to the rawest recruit realized the supreme importance of the prize for which we were contending, and as the siege lengthened our vigilance increased.

I shall never forget, just before the break of day, June 4, how sharply the bugles of the Fifth Cavalry rang out the reveille. We knew the early call meant business. Our horses were fed and carefully groomed; a hasty breakfast eaten, and our arms carefully inspected, for our own lives might depend on their condition.

And again came the call of the bugles—this time "boots and saddles," and in a moment four hundred veterans, their skins bronzed, almost black through years of exposure to the southern sun, glistening with health and vigor in the morning light, were in the saddle. The horses, spare, sinewy, champed at the bit, anxious to be off. Down the line came the order:

"Officer detail four hundred men well mounted and two days' rations, with the required amount of ammunition; Taylor's battery of steel guns will report to Colonel Appeson, of the Fifth Illinois Cavalry, who will take command in person. By order of post commander, etc."

At daybreak we marched out on the bluff road in the direction of Yazoo City to the music of Grant's big siege guns, whose boom, boom grew fainter and fainter as the march lengthened. But we never got out of the devastation and destruction of war. We were in its familiar paths; on every side was ruined farms, the houses burned, the cotton and the corn uncultivated in the weedy fields, whose masters were with Lee and Johnson, and their former slaves in the Union army.

We marched carefully and leisurely along, our advance guard well in front. About nine o'clock our advance struck the enemy;—first the sharp crack of the rifles from their pickets; here and there through the scrubby timber we could see the glint of their guns and the flash of their swords. We at once advanced towards the smoke of the enemy's rifles, feeling our way to see how many were in our front, whether it was a squad, a company, battalion,

regiment or brigade, and, "feeling of the enemy," under such circumstances is about as exciting business as one can engage in. Just ahead of you is the enemy, who signify their interest in you with various little pellets of lead, and huge chunks of iron thrown in your direction. What do they mean? How many of them are there? That is what you must find out, and there is only one way to do so. Make yourself such an uncomfortable neighbor that the enemy will run, either toward you or from you, "and there is the rub," which way will he go? Our battery shelled the enemy and the flanks of our cavalry pressed on to find that the main body had retired towards Mechanicsburg. After we had captured two guns of their battery, we kept them "humping," their rear guard fighting our advance. We gradually pushed them back, until we reached Mechanicsburg, some twenty-five or thirty miles from our camp. Here we found the main body of the enemy posted on the brow of a hill, which protected them. We could discover the muzzles of their battery manned by artillarymen, and back of these were the supports—cavalry and mounted infantry.

When we found they had made a stand our battery unlimbered and commenced shelling them, to which their battery vigorously replied, and after an hour's interchange of compliments, Colonel Appeson determined to end the "day's work" by a decisive engagement, and ordered us to prepare for a charge. (We afterwards found that the enemy was preparing to do the same thing, to charge us, but we had the start of them.) Every man relieved himself of all surplus weight—blankets, haversacks and canteens; everything except carbines, sabers and revolvers. A lane led straight up through an open field to the rebel battery, the fences here and there having been torn down.

Capt. William P. Withers, a skillful officer and as brave a man as ever lived, and the writer were ordered to lead the charge. On each side of the lane were thrown out flankers; Colonel Appeson mounted on his famous black charger on the right of the line gave the command.

> "Our sabers flashed in the setting sun,
> And we thundered up the lane as one."

At first a gentle trot, then a gallop and finally a run. Our bodies leaning forward in line with our horses' heads at an angle

of forty-five degrees, and sabers at front point, ready for the shock—man and horse strained to the utmost for any grain of vantage on the enemy, who in the meantime were not idle. We were enveloped in a thick cloud of dust which rendered marksmanship by the enemy impossible. All they could do was to fire at the advancing cloud; and as they were above us, fortunately for us, they fired over instead of at us, though occasionally a man or horse was hit. The usual tendency to shoot above a mark on a lower level than the gunner, saved our little band of brave men from complete destruction. Our column went on like a whirlwind in a mad onward rush. It was bound to succeed by its own momentum, unless broken by shot or shell or counter charge of the enemy, but they were too late to rally. As we approached the rebel lines, when moments seemed minutes, the uproar was incessant, deafening. The discordant sounds of officers and men, and the sharp crack of the rifle and the thunder of hoofs; the agonizing cry of horses and men, as they went down to rise no more, all unite in an overwhelming horror. In front of the enemy's battery they had dug a trench some two or three feet deep and several feet wide, as a protection against attack, but it was no defense to a cyclone like this. Some were unhorsed in the ditch, while others cleared it, and the cyclone went on in its fury. My good horse "Jack," who had borne me safely through many a hard trip, stumbled, threw me under a cassion, knocking me senseless and ruining the horse. The colonel's black also threw his rider headlong in the sand and dust, but those who passed over in safety, drove the confederates as chaff before the wind. We captured their battery and about sixty prisoners who were unable to get away, the rest escaped in the gathering gloom of night. Bean Bradshaw and our own brave George McGloughlin captured a dozen prisoners on their famous race horses, "Dog Legs" and "Charley Edwards." This was as exhilarating and as honorable as taking prisoners in the fight. The confederate prisoners, like ourselves, had been fighting all day, but fighting at a losing game. They were much cast down, gaunt, sullen with the day's retreat and final defeat, and sparsely clad, covered with dust, and smoke of the fight, but as good fighting material as ever shouldered a musket. In reply to our chaffing, they said they did not mind being taken prisoners in a genteel way, but they be d—d if they liked to be run down and run over

as they had been by the Fifth Illinois Cavalry, who were no gentlemen.

We camped that night near the scene of the charge, parked our guns and equipage and with our prisoners of war well guarded. Our camp fires were soon blazing and a hearty supper of hard tack, S. B. and coffee cooked and eaten, we were soon sleeping the sleep that only a cavalryman who has been fourteen hours in the saddle can sleep.

Anecdotes of the War of the Rebellion.

"Been Promoted, Sar."

Gen. William Ward Orme told the following incident of the battle of Prairie Grove: Just before the battle on the occasion of a flag of truce he had met a pompous little gentlemen, Captain Smith, of a rebel Arkansas regiment. After the battle, on going through our hospital he found the same gentleman a prisoner, badly wounded in the face, and he kindly said: "Captain Smith, I am sorry to see you here." To which came the muffled reply from the bloody bandaged mouth of the little man, "Major, sir, major, if you please, been promoted, sar."

Running the Rebel Batteries at Vicksburg.

From the days of Paul Jones to Manila and Santiago the men of the American navy have been distinguished for their bravery. Just before the siege of Vicksburg Lieutenant Shirk of the navy, visited Hon. Leonard Swett of Bloomington. Lieutenant Shirk was waiting the completion at St. Louis of the gunboat Tuscumbia which he was to command and which was to run the rebel batteries at Vicksburg. He invited Mr. Swett to make the trip with him. But Swett said, "Lieutenant, isn't there very great danger that the rebels will blow you up before you get past them?"

"Why, of course," replied the officer, "that is just what we are going to try." "Well, said Swett, "that's your business and I don't think I will intrude on it." On the night of the 16th of April the Tuscumbia and six other gunboats and three transports did run the rebel batteries, which poured their fiercest fire upon them, but of our fleet only one man was killed and two wounded, and they on the gunboat Benton.

Commodore Foote.

One of the bravest men that ever commanded a ship was Commodore Andrew H. Foote, who commanded our fleet of gunboats at Fort Donaldson. While he was at St. Louis superintending the preparation of his fleet, one evening at the Planters' House one of the ladies, Mrs. Leonard Swett of Bloomington, congratulated him on the glory he was sure to win with his fleet, to which he replied with the Bible quotation, "Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off."

BLOOMINGTON 1853 TO 1856.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARIES OF ISAAC L. KENYON WITH REMINISCENCES BY THE AUTHOR, MARY P. HOOVER.

BENNET, NEBRASKA, NOV. 27, 1899.

Mr. E. M. Prince, Secretary McLean County Historical Society:

MY DEAR SIR: Some time ago a copy of the "War Record of McLean County and Other Papers" came into my hands, which I have read with a great degree of interest, having been a resident of Bloomington from 1853 to 1876. I notice in the preface of the book a request to those who can furnish anything of interest about the early days of the city or county to do so. I have diaries of 1853, 1854, and 1855, kept by a man who passed in and out among the business men of the city for a period of nineteen years. Although it is the record of a private life, there are some things there recorded that may interest the reader and, possibly, be of importance in making up the history of those years. These diaries were kept faithfully,—as was every other duty that came into his busy life—and may be relied upon. I refer to Isaac L. Kenyon, whom the older business men of Bloomington may remember. He died in the autumn of 1872. My memory also serves me well of the incidents of those years, and that, with the diaries, perhaps may take the place of what some one else has forgotten and make the history more complete. When I went to Bloomington in September, 1853, I had been elected principal of the Preparatory department of the Central Illinois Female College. Miss Bettie L. Parke, of Mount Pulaski, was my assistant. Professor Wilkins was principal of the institution; Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Jerome, of Monticello, and Mrs. D. E. W. Carson (wife of the gallant Capt. Delos Carson, who was massacred at Fort Pillow during the Civil War), made up the board of instruction. The school was located in the Seminary building, corner Main and Olive streets, where Rev. Geo. W. Minier had conducted a young ladies' seminary for a number of years.

Mr. Wilkins had charge of an academy at Ann Arbor, Michigan, since his graduation from the Michigan University in 1849. His health having failed from too close confinement in the schoolroom, he traveled about teaching landscape painting, in which art he excelled. He came to Bloomington in the winter of 1851. Reverend Minier had given up his school some time before, and Professor Wilkins saw that a great need of the growing town was a non-sectarian school for the higher education of young women. The fact that he inspired the whole community with confidence in his plans, and called around him so many of the most wealthy and influential citizens who assisted him in establishing the school, proved his magnetic influence among his fellow-men. The school opened in April, 1852, for three months, on trial. There was a much larger attendance than had been anticipated and it was decided to continue it another year. The prospects were so flattering that a meeting of citizens was called early in the New Year, 1853, which resulted in establishing it a permanent institution, duly incorporated. It was named the Central Illinois Female College. Committees were at once appointed to purchase property and erect suitable buildings. Hon. J. E. McClun, James Miller, Rev. F. N. Ewing, Dr. E. R. Roe, Jesse W. Fell, Hon. David Davis, Jesse and Isaac Funk, Rev. R. O. Warriner, and a number of other influential men of all Christian denominations were on the board of trustees and visitors.

Early in 1855, Mr. Wilkins' health again failed from too close confinement, and all that year vigorous measures were taken to bring some one to take charge of the institution. But educators were timid about hastening to the new country then, and it was not accomplished. The school continued until June 20, 1856, when it held its last session. The only graduate was Miss Sarah Funk, daughter of Jesse Funk, of Randolph's Grove, now Mrs. Brittenham, of Monticello. I have a catalogue for 1853-4, which shows an attendance of two hundred and twenty-one pupils for the school year, and now, after a period of more than forty years, as I read over the names, the faces of nearly all are recorded on memory's page as if I had seen them but yesterday. The knowledge that a large number of these women became the wives and mothers of some of the best educated and most influential citizens of Bloomington and vicinity, convinces me that the Central Illi-

nois Female College, though short lived, was an important factor, and deserves a place among the records of the McLean County Historical Society. The academy building had, for many years, been a center of education for young women. "Beautiful for situation," with vine-embowered walls, surrounded by lofty trees, fine shrubbery and flowers, she sat on the brow of the hill, like a queen upon her throne surrounded by loyal subjects. Her halls had long resounded to happy young voices, high hopes and aspirations were there born to be developed and wrought out in the every-day-life of later years. They may move away or tear down the old building, but cannot destroy the characters whose foundations were there laid for the realization of all that is good and noble in life. The only public school building in 1853, stood on the lot north of the residence of Colonel Parsons, northwest corner of Olive and West streets. The teacher was a young man by the name of Knox, who died of lung fever in February, 1854. I remember him well. His pleasant, social manner made him many friends. Histories of Bloomington have been written by relatives and descendants of the early settlers, who watched her growth with the same care a mother guards her child and notes with pride every advance step. It was so long ago this *daughter of the pioneers,* seeking a home, came and settled down on the edge of the prairie in the grateful shade of Blooming Grove, and has grown, and developed strength and comeliness and all the virtues that go to make her one of the most beautiful and desirable inland cities on our continent. Those who came from the eastern cities tc "view the land" in the early '50's were pleased to call it a "settlement," but were easily convinced of their error. There was no bustling hurry, as now, but a routine of quiet life. Free from vice, its jail was almost never occupied, crime had left no stain on its history's page. Its churches were filled on the Sabbath day with devout worshipers, its inhabitants, a happy Christian people, serving their God as he gave them to see. Its grassy streets ending in dusty roads leading up the neighboring hill and down the quiet valley, losing themselves at last in the green old grove that fringed the place. This is my earliest remembrance of the old town that had the brightest sunshine, the purest air, the dearest friends, the happiest homes of any I have known, and now, as I write, memory instinctively turns with delicious sweetness to those years—and comes like the soft chiming of far-off bells.

The writer of the diaries was a student in the Illinois Wesleyan University. Entry for November 6, 1854: "Professor Goodfellow has left the school. Mr. O. T. Reeves, a young man from Ohio, has taken his place." "January 22, '55, the Illinois Wesleyan University suspended operations this morning, the school not being sufficiently large to support the teachers. Several of us have made arrangements with Professor Wilkins to attend the Female College the rest of the year, and thus go on with our studies." "April 30, '55. The young men have been thrown out of the school on account of the dissatisfaction of some of its patrons, their wish being that none but ladies be permitted to attend." There were twenty-seven young men and boys who thus sought refuge, displaying some of the enterprise and determination to succeed, that characterized them later in life.

College Hall, west from the court house on Center street, was built in 1854 by Dr. J. R. Freeze. It was a three-story brick building and met the needs of the growing town. Formerly, the only place for public gatherings, except the court house, had been Majors Hall, corner East and Front streets.

Doctor Freeze was a medium-sized man, of perhaps thirty years, very active, conscientious, of superior education and an excellent man. He wore his hair very much longer than did other men of that day—full beard trimmed close, and a long goatee. He also wore spectacles—which was unusual except for elderly people—and altogether he presented a remarkable appearance. His ambition was to found a medical college or an institution which would eventually grow into that, and he used his most forcible arguments to inspire others with the idea that this was the time to lay the foundations for such an institution. This was the inception of College Hall. He built it that he might have a room of his own where he could form a class of medical students, and a hall where none but medical and scientific lectures and concerts of a high order would be given. I am sure he had such a class—for in 1855, there is mention of visiting a class in Doctor Freeze's room. At the dedication, November 28, 1854, he gave the address of the evening, telling of his aspirations, and setting forth his plans for public good. Doctor Roe followed with one of his stirring speeches, and at the close, moved that we name this Freeze's Hall, to perpetuate the name of the builder. Doctor

Freeze objected, saying he would name it College Hall because it was comprehensive of the design for which it was built. Other speeches followed and with vocal and instrumental music, we passed a most enjoyable evening. A quartette—Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Platt, and Mr. O. Rugg—furnished vocal music. I remember we sang "On to the Field of Glory," by Donizetti, "Oh Strike the Silver Strings," "The Mariner's Song," and "Ben Bolt," a new song, and now, after more than forty years, it is again popular. Mrs. Sears and Mrs. J. H. Humphrey presided at the piano. A brass band from Chicago was also in attendance. Arrangements had been made for a dance to follow the exercises of the evening. Doctor Freeze objected, and perhaps others did, I cannot say. The Bloomington band was to play for the exercises and also for the dance, but when Doctor Freeze vetoed the dance, the band withdrew saying, they "wouldn't be domineered over by any long-haired doctor." A telegram was sent to parties in Chicago who secured a band for the evening. They came on the afternoon train and returned the same night. Whether the dance went on and "joy was unconfined" somewhere else, I do not remember, but College Hall was crowded that evening.

The first public meeting after that was December 5, Rev. F. W. Thomas, an Episcopal clergyman, addressed the Philomathean Society of the Wesleyan University. The next, December 13, the Riley Family gave a concert. Thus the lecture season opened. Doctor Roe gave a course of lectures on Geology and Astronomy, Doctor Freeze on Physiology, and Professor Wilkins on Chemistry. Rev. F. W. Thomas gave a series of Sabbath evening lectures to young people, which were very popular. The Musical Association now had a permanent place for meeting. Their first concert was given in the hall, December 23, and, by request, was repeated soon after the holidays. We had been using a book of sacred music called The Shawm. With the proceeds of these concerts we purchased the New York Glee and Chorus Book. This association was the result of a convention held by W. H. Van Meter the previous August, 1854. We were duly organized, met each week for practice and employed a teacher as opportunity offered. The first members were, Mrs. Wilkins, Lizzie Larrimore, Laura Burhans, Mary Coleman, Sarah Coleman, Mary Smith and her sister, Ellen Smith, Sallie Miller, Mary Fell, Mrs. I. W. Wilmeth, Belle Wil-

meth, Carrie Hardy, and the writer of this chronicle. The gentlemen were, J. W. Sherfey, J. N. Larrimore, O. Rugg, F. Wilson, I. L. Kenyon, F. Miller, W. H. Miller, Wharton Larrimore, and Will Ross. Will Ross did not pretend to sing much, but said he could keep time,—that is, he knew when it was time for everybody to go home.

At first our meetings were held in the Presbyterian church, but sometimes there were extra services in the church that interfered with our practice, and it was thought best to meet at the homes of the members. I expect these meetings would be a source of amusement to the young people of this generation. A large table was set out in the middle of the floor with a lamp on it. Burning fluid was used then, and one lamp, usually, gave sufficient light for all. When the time came to sing, we would draw our chairs around the table, facing the light. The leader gave the "pitch"—using his tuning-fork, and after the singers had sounded their key-tone by singing, do-me-sol, we were ready to begin singing. This was called *getting the pitch*. There were always some that didn't get it—but would "come in"—or, follow the rest, and by the time we had sung to the end of the first line all would be well started. This was before the day of Cabinet organs. There was a piano at nearly every place where we met, but it was never used to accompany chorus singing. We had a recess of ten or fifteen minutes to rest the voices (?) and have a social time. Prof. J. W. Sherfey, of the Wesleyan University, was our first leader; he went away soon after we organized and Mr. Rugg took the place. The books we used were The Shawm, The Hallelujah, The New York Glee and Chorus Book, and the Alpine Glee Singer. These, supplemented by sheet music, gave ample scope for selections on all occasions. That was during the era of ballad-singing. Ballads were of a mournful, pathetic nature, usually bore the name of some young girl, and depicted the heroine of the song as "lying on her dying couch" or, in the "cold and silent grave," and was thought to be most enjoyed when the listener was affected to tears. "Lilly Dale," "Daisy Dean," "Belle Brandon," "Ellen Bayne," "Mary, of the Wild Moor," were new then and sung by everybody. "The Old Kentucky Home," "Old Folks at Home," "Ossian Serenade," and "Willie, We Have Missed You," were also great favorites with the young people. "Do They Miss Me at

Home," was also popular, and was highly appreciated by those who had lately come to the new country, as it was by our Boys in Blue during the Civil War. There were many songs of a more lively nature, but we had nothing of the rag-time which has become so popular with some of the present generation.

Early in the summer of 1855 we succeeded in bringing Messrs. Lamphere and Loomis to hold a convention. They were teachers of wide reputation and their coming aroused considerable enthusiasm among musicians, and a number who had not joined the chorus before, came with us now. The concert at the close of this convention was quite an event. The Good Templars held a celebration the Fouth of July following, and invited the association to assist, which we were happy to do. Doctor Roe was the principal speaker. We continued meeting weekly, always advancing in theory and practice, until 1863, when Prof. J. F. Fargo came, and established the Northwestern Normal Academy of Music for a term of years. That the readers of this history may better understand the advantages this *school of music* afforded the musicians who attended, I will insert the "Order of daily class exercises" taken from an old catalogue of the institution, published in 1867. There were one hundred and forty pupils in attendance that year, from New York, Iowa, Kentucky, and Illinois.

NORTHWESTERN NORMAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

DESIGN.

The design of this institution is to afford all who may wish to avail themselves of its advantages, an opportunity to acquire a thorough knowledge of music in its several departments, thereby avoiding the too common tendency to educate some one faculty to the disadvantage of others. Also, may be mentioned the superior facilities for the study of standard music, and the additional advantages arising from the association for purposes of mutual improvement, of many persons differing in dispositon, temperament, taste and degree of culture. In every department it is the constant aim of the corps of teachers to make the instruction, both theoretical and practical, conform to the methods of the best masters, ancient and modern, and, as far as possible, to acquaint the pupil with the works instead of the mere names of classical composers.

ORDER OF DAILY CLASS EXERCISES.

A. M.

8:45 to 9:00—Chapel Service.
9:00 to 9:40—Vocal Culture.
9:45 to 10:25—Harmony, Section B.
10:30 to 11:10—Musical Elocution.
11:15 to 12:00—Music Reading, and Harmony, Section D.

P. M.

2:00 to 2:40—Singing Teachers' Class, and Harmony, Section A.
2:45 to 3:25—Harmony, Section C.
3:30 to 4:10—Piano Forte Teachers' Class.
4:15 to 5:30—Rudimental Class.

EVENING. 7:30 to 9:00—Chorus Class.

NOTE.—There are no recitations in the Academy on Saturdays, and the Chorus Class meets but four evenings in each week. To avoid confusion in the changing of classes, a recess of five minutes' is allowed at the close of each recitation. When two recitations occur at the same hour, the Harmony Classes meet in Mr. Parker's room.

CHORUS CLASS.

Each evening, with the exceptions before mentioned, is devoted to the practice of Oratorio, Mass, Operatic, and Glee Choruses. This class is open not only to students of the Academy, who are all expected to be present, but to those residing in or near the city, who cannot be in attendance during the day.

The sessions were held each year in the M. E. church, E. C., commencing early in September and continuing six weeks. Prof. J. F. Fargo was principal of the institution and teacher of musical elocution and theory; S. L. Coe, voice culture, and F. A. Parker, teacher of organ, piano forte, and harmony. Richard Edwards, L. L. D., of Normal, was president of the board of regents; Daniel Wilkins, secretary, and C. W. Holder, treasurer. The other members of the board were O. Rugg, H. Everly, E. M. Prince, Wm. Ollis, J. W. Maxwell, James Allen, Jr., E. B. Winchester, W.M. Hatch, and J. W. Whipp.

Each year Professor Fargo succeeded in bringing instructors from eastern cities to assist the faculty. B. F. Baker, of Boston, who had a reputation as a successful leader of large choruses, was with us the first year and gave eminent satisfaction in the work of the chorus class. Another year we had H. R. Palmer, who afterward became noted as composer of sacred and secular music, and who has had charge of music at Chautauqua assemblies all over the United States. At the close of the term of 1868, Romberg's "Song of the Bell," was given by the chorus class, led I believe, by S. L. Coe. Prof. John Zundel, who was organist in Henry Ward Beecher's church a number of years, and Prof. George Morgan were instructors of the pipe organ. In the winter of 1864, the constitution of the Musical Association

was revised to correspond with advanced ideas, its name was changed for the more euphonious one "The Musical Union," and Prof. F. A. Parker was employed to conduct the work.

At that time there was a chorus of eighty voices, and we continued the weekly meetings as long as Professor Parker remained in Bloomington. We assisted at Fourth of July celebrations, at dedications, installation ceremonies, and later, on Decoration Day—when our services were desired. In following out the evolution of chorus singing in Bloomington, I am constrained to believe that the energy and faithfulness of the chorus organized in 1854, had more influence on the history of music of the city, than we have ever thought to give credit.

THE FIRST STATE TEACHERS' INSTITUTE

In Illinois was held in the basement of the Methodist church, corner of Washington and East streets. I had the honor of belonging to the local committee that prepared for it, and remember how hard we worked to make it a success, corresponding with educators all over the state and advertising everywhere. The other members of the committee were Laura Burhans and Sarah Funk, besides Professors Goodfellow and Wilkins. We felt at the time that this was to be an important meeting, and now, looking backward, noting what has been accomplished in the years that lie between that time and the present, I believe I may say without contradiction that it was the *most* important educational meeting ever held in the state.

That the reader may understand something of their value to the educational interests of the state, I will copy some of the proceedings of the meeting from an article on "Early Education in Illinois," from the pen of Professor W. L. Pillsbury of Champaign, in the Illinois school report of 1885-6.

The inception of this movement was inaugurated at the home of Professor Wilkins in the autumn of 1853, when Mr. Henry H. Lee, principal of the Garden City Institute of Chicago, and Mr. James A. Hawley of Dixon, being in Bloomington on business, called on Professor Wilkins and spent the evening. The condition of school affairs in the state having come up as a topic of conversation, they determined to ask Hon. Alexander Starne, secretary of state and ex-officio state superintendent of common

schools, to call a convention. Mr. Lee went to Springfield and laid the subject before the superintendent, who declined to issue the call himself, but consented to head a call made by educational men of the state. Through correspondence conducted by Mr. Wilkins, thirty-two names were secured and the following call was issued by Superintendent Starne:

It is believed that the interests of education in the state of Illinois would be happily subserved by a convention of teachers and prominent friends of education. Mutual interchange of opinions, and a comparison of the various plans for successfully imparting knowledge would certainly result in the rejection of erroneous methods, and in the adoption of the best. The beneficial influence of teachers' institutes in other states. and the importance of occasional conventions of education have suggested to teachers in various parts of the state the importance of calling an educational convention to be composed of teachers, superintendents, the commissioners of schools, and friends of education generally.

From various directions the call has been proposed and Bloomington has been unanimously agreed upon as the most convenient place, and the 26th of December instant the most convenient time. That city can be reached by railroad from many portions of the state, and that time is one at which schools are commonly enjoying a brief vacation.

The convention will organize on the evening of Monday, December 26, and will probably extend its sessions through several days. Arrangements have been made for public addresses during the evenings, commencing on the evening of the day designated, at 6 o'clock p. m.

Arrangements have been made with several railroad companies to carry delegates to and from the convention at half fare and the citizens of Bloomington have generously provided for the entertainment of the delegates free of charge.

The names of more than thirty of the prominent educators in the state were signed to this call; it was printed and a copy sent to every teacher in the state so far as known.

The institute opened on the evening of December 26, 1853, with a small number of teachers present. Our numbers were augmented at the session next morning, and during the day a goodly number of names were enrolled. At our first meeting, H. H. Lee was made president and W. H. Powell, secretary. Professor Goodfellow delivered an address, and Professor Wilkins, W. F. M. Arny and Thomas Powell of Mt. Palatine, were made a committee on exercises. The committee on business reported for discussion these resolutions:

1. That a State Teachers' Institute be organized by this convention.

2. That the convention recommend to the legislature the creation of an office of state superintendent of common schools, with a sufficient salary to secure the undivided energies of a man in all respects competent for said office.

3. That the convention take measures to secure the establishment of a paper or periodical devoted to the interests of common school education.

4. That this convention take measures to secure the establishment of a State Normal School.

These resolutions were all adopted; a committee appointed on organization of the institute; also, one to establish a paper. The question of a Normal school was discussed at length at several sessions, and in relation to this and the other subjects of general interest these resolutions were passed:

That a committee of seven or more be appointed to correspond with the friends of education in several important points in the state, and see where the people are willing to begin a normal school and do the most to establish the same.

That a committee of five members of this convention be chosen to memorialize the legislature of this state, accompanied by petitions of the people.

For the establishment of the office of superintendent of common schools and the appointment of a suitable person thereto.

For the establishment and support of normal schools.

For the establishment of such common school system which, while it will bring the means of education without money and without price to all, shall best fit the mass of the people for the high and noble duties of life.

I have outlined briefly as possible the work planned at these sessions to be wrought out later on.

Let us see what came as a result of that beneficent movement that is blessing the state and the world today.

1. The State Teachers' Institute was organized—the name was changed by the legislature of 1857 to the Illinois State Teachers' Association—and it has developed into a mighty army.

2. The office of state superintendent of public instruction was created by the legislature of 1854.

3. The periodical asked for was named The Illinois Teacher; it was established in 1855 and was an important factor in educational circles for eighteen years.

4. The bill for a normal school passed the legislature of 1857.

5. The common school law, with a two-mill tax for its support, was enacted in 1855.

I remember there was considerable discussion about the tax; some thought a two-mill tax would be sufficient, others argued it should be five mills, while some of the teachers who suffered the discomforts of the country school, through the Illinois mud and snow, felt that dollars would sound more appropriate for their needs.

Other questions of minor importance, compared to those named in the resolutions, were brought out by the younger teachers and discussed by all.

Sanitary conditions of the rural school houses and their surroundings received marked attention. The subject of vocal music as a part of the regular work of all schools was objected to on the grounds that it would take the children's minds from their other studies, and would be a waste of time.

Vocal music was a part of the regular course of instruction in the Central Illinois Female College. One of Bloomington's prominent business men complained of this waste of time and energy and threatened to withdraw his support from the school.

Ten years from that time, when his daughter applied for a position in the Bloomington schools, she could not have received a certificate had she not been proficient in music.

The institute closed on the evening of December 28, with a public meeting. Addresses were given by a number of the prominent educators present.

There seems to have been sufficient food for intellectual develment in the years from 1853 to 1856, if we are to judge by the number of noted lecturers and speakers who came, and the frequent concerts given by traveling troupes.

The Riley family came often and sometimes occupied three evenings. Then there were the Lombard, Baker, Newhall, and Blakeslee families. Professor Goodfellow addressed the Sons of Temperance April 27, 1853, and the Masons, June 29, of the same year. January 27, 1854, Doctor Freeze spoke on Resolution and Energy, at the M. E. church. Later, Rev. C. C. Bonney, of Peoria, now of Chicago, addressed a joint meeting of the literary societies of the Female College and Wesleyan University, on Responsibility of Students, an earnest, thoughtful discourse that was

long remembered. Then, we heard Doctor Roe, on Geology; Professor Reeves, Astronomy, and Bayard Taylor, the great American traveler. He came April 17, 1854, and for two evenings took us o'er land and sea to the wonderful climes he had visited, arousing a desire in the hearts of his hearers to "go and do likewise." Ninian Edwards, state superintendent of education, spoke on Schools; Mrs. Cutter, Home and Mother; Mrs. Emmerson, Woman's Rights; Doctor Young, Spiritualism, at the Universalist church; Henry Shaw, of Tremont, on Practical Farming; Prof. J. B. Turner in the interest of the Industrial University, and Dr. Henry Spencer on Clairvoyance and Mesmerism. November 1, 1855, Reverend Milburn, the blind preacher, spoke to young people in College Hall.

It seems that nearly every phase of life was presented by one or the other of those who addressed the people. Some of the political speakers were Ex-President Fillmore, June, 1854, in favor of the North; Cassius M. Clay, Stephen A. Douglas, Abraham Lincoln, on the Nebraska question, and Joshua R. Giddings, abolitionist. Some of these were delivered at the court house, and some at the halls.

September 3, 1854, there was a lecture in Major's Hall, on Christian Union, by W. F. M. N. Arney, V. D. M. C. C. As his alphabet of initials and titles indicate, he was an eccentric man. He was intensely interested in his subject and seemed to thoroughly understand what he was talking about. Sometimes he lectured on Harmonial Philosophy, and sent articles to the papers signed with his full name. He used to come to our house on business, and once told me what all the letters *stood for,* but I have forgotten their significance. He lived on a farm north from Normal.

The young men of the city sustained a literary club, which was named "The Rhetorical Society." They met on Friday evening of each week and discussed the most important questions of the day. Some have been settled, others are before the people now, as surely as they were then. I will copy a few, enough to show the trend of thought the young men indulged, in those years: Does the slavery question interest us of the north? Should we have more strict naturalization laws? Should we settle up the Indian Territories and *extinguish the Indians?* Should women have the right of suffrage? Was the war with

Mexico just? Could our language be better represented by the phonetic alphabet? Should capital punishment be abolished?

The new bell for the M. E. church, corner Washington and East streets, came in the autumn of 1853, but was not hung in place until the following spring. A temporary shed was built for its protection on the west side of the walk leading from the gate to the church door. It was raised a few feet from the ground and was rung for all services that winter, by means of a string fastened to the tongue. There was a legend to the effect that when the First Methodist church was built, corner Main and Olive streets, the committee whose duty it was to purchase the bell, were not *posted* on the different kinds of bells in use. They ordered one of the size they thought would correspond to the size of the building. When it arrived, it was found to be a steamboat bell. However, it was mounted and did loyal service until long after the building passed into other hands. It had a *hurry-up* call like a fire bell, which was, doubtless, very appropriate, considering its mission. The new bell was larger and had a more dignified tone. The young people used to think it said, "Take your time, salvation's free."

When this church was built the Methodist people did not anticipate the rapid growth of the city that followed in the next few years. It was already found to be too small in 1853, and arrangements were made to build another church. This was a frame structure, located on the southeast corner of Washington and West streets. It was dedicated April 30, 1854. The sermon was preached by Prof. C. W. Sears, who was also placed in charge of the services, until the fall conference. It was called the West Charge M. E. church. After it was finished, an edict was sent out by those in authority, that all members living east of Center street were expected to attend the old church, which was then named East Charge, and all west of Center street were considered members of the new church.

Up to this time there had been a desire on the part of all interested to do anything and everything that would help the cause along. There was even some talk of trying to spare some of our choir, though there had been no definite action taken. This proclamation had the effect that might have been anticipated, and settled matters at once. Those who had been undecided before

came to the conclusion that they had better attend the old church right along, it was not a good time to change. The choir concluded they were not in favor of a division,—we had the largest church and congregation and really *needed* all the singers we could get. There was never any feeling except the most harmonious, but each felt that they should be allowed to make their own choice. One might as well try to induce a flock of sheep to go where they do not want to. The conference sent their best ministers and the congregations were large, but it was thought to be too near the other church to become successful. After a few years,—during the war,—the building was sold, taken down carefully, and rebuilt for a Methodist congregation, at a small place north, on the C. & A. railroad.

In 1866, Schroeder's Opera House was rented for Sunday services, and Rev. W. R. Goodwin was sent as pastor. He was a popular preacher, and had a large attendance, but most of the old members attended the East Charge—as it was always called—even after the other church *went up the road.* And now, with those in authority in the church, it was not a question of East Charge nor West Charge, but "A charge to keep I have."

In 1867 a new church organization was perfected and, determining to take it *far* enough away *this* time, went over to the chapel of the Wesleyan University, where it worshiped a number of years. Later, this people purchased and occupied their present quarters which is now known as Grace church.

Of the fraternities, besides the Masons and Sons of Temperance—already mentioned—there was a lodge of Odd Fellows, Good Templars, and one called The Watchman. I am not acquainted with the work of the last named organization, but think it was something similar to what was known in later years as the Law and Order League. The temperance question bore its share of importance. There were lectures and mass meetings, and the subject was brought before the people, and discussed more often than any other topic during those years.

At the spring election, April, 1853, the temperance people succeeded in electing their mayor. June 5, 1855, the prohibitory amendment was submitted to the vote of the people in the state. Bloomington precinct gave a majority of 453 in favor of the law, and on the 26th of the same month the temperance people took

MRS. MARY P. HOOVER.

twenty barrels of liquor out beyond the city limits and destroyed it; thus setting a bad example to lawless citizens. "May 16, 1854. The safe for the new bank arrived to-day; weight, 6,600 pounds." "May 14, 1853. The cars arrived on the Central railroad to-day." "May 24, 1853. We now have regular trains, one each way, daily, and from now on, the voice of the steam whistle will be heard in the land." "October 15, 1853. The first train arrived here to-day on the C. & A. railroad."

There was some trouble about the right-of-way between the depot and the junction. A stage route was established to carry passengers and baggage, and was kept up until the road was completed. Atlanta was then called Hamilton. The first railway excursion from Bloomington was on June 4, 1853, less than a month after the Illinois Central was completed. It was a union Sunday school picnic, held in a grove on the Mackinaw river, some twenty miles north from the city in the vicinity of Kappa. About three hundred were in attendance. A year later a similar excursion was planned by the professors of the Female College and Wesleyan University—to be held in the same grove, May 27, 1854. At eight o'clock on that morning, in company with teachers, schoolmates, and friends, with baskets, swings, and fishing outfit, there assembled at the depot a company of two hundred people, as gay and happy as one would wish to see. We arrived at the grove about nine o'clock, with a long day before us for enjoyment. It was one of spring's brightest days, full of radiant sunshine. Nature had put on her robes of loveliest green. Bird-songs made music in the rustling tree-tops, wild flowers and grasses were swaying beneath the balmy south wind under the warm blue sky. But the heart of youth does not long respond to the "woodland call" of quiet nature. Swings were quickly adjusted and gave active enjoyment to those who wished. Hammocks were then unknown to us. Croquet and tennis had not been discovered for the benefit of active minds and limbs. We had the usual bountiful dinner so welcome to hungry picnicers; our songs rivaled the bird-songs overhead, and we took long walks and gathered from nature's choicest stores of rock and flower; evening, and the summons from the train came all too soon. Some commenced walking together that day whose journey never ended till, "One of them tired and lay down to rest, In a low grave enstarred with daisies."

The First Wesleyan Picnic.

Early in October, 1853, a picnic was held in the grove that had been selected as the site for the Illinois Wesleyan University, with a view of getting the public interested in the enterprise. I am sure it was not on the spot where the building now stands, but farther west, perhaps a half mile or more, and a little farther north. If that is so, I do not know why the location was changed. Everybody was invited to the picnic and it seemed, everybody attended. We went in the afternoon and took a basket supper with us. I remember, Mrs. Wilkins and I went out Center street, and on our way called on Mrs. Linus Graves, whose home was at the corner of Center and Jefferson streets where the Ashley House was afterwards built. Her son, Walter, then an infant, was lying on the lounge taking his afternoon nap. Coming in from the bright sunlight we did not discover him until as we were preparing to be seated, the cry of the alarmed mother rang through the room, "Oh, don't sit down on my baby!" aroused us to the danger and we hastily sought chairs. Walter grew to manhood in our midst a favorite with all who knew him, and I am inclined to think that in all his useful life he never came so near being *set down on* as he did then.

I shall never forget that bright October afternoon. It was just at the time of year when all nature lies still and beautiful in the kiss of the autumn sunshine. The early frost had tinged the leaves of the forest trees with the most gorgeous shades of red and gold and brown, and these, banked against the steel blue of the autumn sky overhead, formed a rare picture. I remember this all so well because, having recently come to the place, I had formed but few acquaintances among the girls of my own age, and I found familiar friends in the birds and trees and sky that cheered my homesick heart. Nature is a good friend to go to for comfort at such a time. That, and incidents that followed left every detail indelibly impressed on my memory. I wish to write especially of one woman whom I had met a few times before that day. Mrs. Holmes, who with her husband had moved to Bloomington only a few months before. She was a woman of culture and refinement, a year or two older than myself and a most agreeable companion. Her mother—I do not recall her

name—had been visiting her through the summer, but was expecting to return to her eastern home in a short time, and Mrs. Holmes was to accompany her for a visit with early friends. After she came to the picnic the time passed more pleasantly to me, and it seemed that our acquaintance might ripen into a valuable and lasting friendship. But the next time I saw my friend she was dead. She had invited some of her own and her mother's friends to take tea with them the evening before they were to start on their journey. In preparing for the meal she found there was not sufficient flour to finish her baking, and thinking it unwise to get a quantity to be left standing for so long a time as she expected to be away, made arrangements with a neighbor for the small amount needed. Some was used to finish making a cake, and some to make dressing for the meat. After supper the entire company were taken violently ill. Physicians were summoned who used every effort for their recovery, but Mrs. Holmes died before morning and I think a child also; if so, I cannot tell whose child it was. It was evident they had been poisoned and upon investigation it was traced to the flour. The neighbor who had furnished it remembered that several days before, they had mixed poison with some flour to set for mice, and in some unaccountable way a portion of it must have been carelessly spilled into the barrel where the flour was kept. And so—one day late—the broken-hearted husband and mother, with the loved one in the other car, commenced the journey that had been planned with such high hopes for happiness.

When Mr. Von Elsner came to Bloomington, in 1854, he and Mr. Wilkins soon became acquainted. I think it was because Mr. Wilkins could converse with him in his native tongue. After he learned that we were musically inclined, he used to bring his guitar and spend the evening. He seemed very quiet and would talk mostly in German —until some one would suggest music. Then he would seem altogether different, so pleasant and cheerful would he be. We had two guitars, a violin, and piano, and made some very enjoyable music. I remember what a fairy-like creature little Marie was when she was between seven and eight years old. One evening at the Academy of Music she sang "Casta Diva" which was supposed to be adapted only to mature voices. It was said that her father

taught her this difficult song, by singing each phrase over and over, until she had mastered it, and could sing it perfectly. One could hardly determine which predominated, admiration for the patience and perseverence of the father, or that of his child.

I saw her in the summer of 1874 shortly before she went to Europe. She told me delightedly that she was going away, and of her aspirations for future fame. She showed her devotion to her father when she said to me, "I know it will break my father's heart if I should fail." To meet the expectations of her friends, seemed to be the keynote to her song of life.

During the summer of 1854 a frame store building was erected on the block, east of the court house. R. R. Landon put in a stock of dry goods, and the sign over the door was New York Store. Mr. Landon remained in Bloomington only a few years. I do not remember who followed him in the business, but am sure the building was the same where Wilcox Brothers went into business when they first came to the city. The most pretentious residence in 1853, and I think the only one built of brick, was on what was for many years known as the Rhoadnight property. I am sure it was recently completed, for the yard was not cleared from building material until the next spring. The brick residence of Mr. George Dietrich was built in 1854. I cannot now tell what streets those buildings were on, for if the streets were named we had no occasion to learn the names. We knew Main street, of course; that was the principal street in the town; and we all knew Center street, for that was what divided the Methodists, east and west; further than that in placing localities directions were given by the points of compass rather than the names of streets.

The only music store in Bloomington in 1854 was in the small building on Washington street near the M. E. church, east charge, which in later years was known as Doctor Faloon's office. The proprietor was Mr. M. Slasson. He had a stock of sheet music, a melodeon—parent of the cabinet organ,— a piano forte and perhaps some smaller instruments, I do not remember. Although his stock was small, he was in communication with manufacturers and publishers and would furnish anything in his line of business that was desired. He had a superior voice and the young people delighted in going into his place of business and

hear him sing songs that had been popular years before that time. I think now, I have never heard anyone sing more delightfully than he sang "Kathleen Mavourneen," "Allan Percy," "The Meeting of the Waters" and others. The melodeon was purchased by the Methodist people in August, 1855, and with the exception of the pipe organ in the First Presbyterian church, was the first instrument used in church services in the city, and thereby hangs a tale of contest and conquest. A number of the members of the church objected to serving the Lord in that way; others thought it was not serving the Lord, but the other one; some objected because it was an enterprise; others because they always objected to any innovation in the church. It is so hard to give up old habits and usages. One good sister would not become reconciled. She would come to church late enough to avoid hearing the opening hymns, and hasten out after the sermon during prayer, but there came a day when we had a new minister who read the closing hymn before prayer, and being fairly caught once, she came early afterward. The official board favored the instrument and the choir and public opinion helped along. It was retained and Lizzie Larrimore played until in October, that year, she was elected assistant professor of music at the Female College at Jacksonville, and Mrs. Wilkins took her place. Mr. J. N. Larrimore was leader of the choir at that time. The custom of taking something to church to nibble on to keep awake during service was dying out at the time of which I write, with the advent of shorter sermons it has gone altogether. It was practiced by elderly people forty or fifty years ago. Sometimes there would be a stick of cinnamon bark, a bit of blue cohosh root, or perhaps some sweet flag root, which, when dried, was called sweet cicily. It was considered in perfect order and good form at any time during service to bite off a piece, chew leisurely, and pass to others, if they would accept it. One evening in prayer-meeting an old gentleman, who was a stranger to all, passed a piece of sweet flag root to a seat full of young women. He did it as a kindness, a courtesy showing that he approved our good behavior, I suppose. I do not seem to remember about that. Ministers preached longer sermons then than they do now. No self-respecting preacher could finish with any subject in less than an hour, and if the discussion was upon some important doctrinal point, it would frequently

consume two hours or more. This seems a most improbable statement in these days of concise reasoning, consolidated ideas and twenty-minute sermons. In 1855 Rev. Peter Cartwright occupied the pulpit of the Methodist church one Sunday morning. The diary states that it was April 29, and that the subject was baptism. He was just getting well started in his discussion when the hotel and boarding house bells rang for dinner. He paused long enough to tell his congregation that if anyone wanted to go they were at liberty to do so, as he was only about half through what he intended to say. I do not remember how many went away, but the close of the service crowded close to the Sunday school hour, which was two o'clock. What wonder that people resorted to chewing pungent things to keep awake?

In the early part of January, 1855, the weather was remarkably fine, for the season. The sun shone warm and bright, and there were frequent showers, confirming all in the belief that we would have an open winter. This continued until after the middle of the month when there came a change "o'er the spirit of our dream," and the state of the atmosphere.

The morning of January 20, dawned clear and bright. Saturday is school-ma'ams' washday, the world over, and our family linen was on the line early, with fair prospects that it might dry before night. But the afternoon turned cloudy and sullen, with increasing cold, and by night-fall everything was frozen solid, not a clothespin could be removed without ruining the fabric it held, and we reluctantly left them out. During the night the wind rose to a gale, snow commenced falling, and what was our consternation on looking out in the morning to see the clothes-line swinging without a vestage of its burden of the evening before. Everything had disappeared as if by magic; and even after the storm was over all search was unavailing. A neighbor laughingly suggested they "must have blown into the middle of next week," but it proved to be, "into the middle of next March," for it was nearly that time before the snow melted away and their lurking-place was discovered. They were on the north side of the south fence entangled among the currant bushes, where we rescued them in a most forlorn condition.

All day Sunday, January 21, the storm continued with unabated fury, the snow drifted until boundary lines were erased, and

highways were one plain of dazzling whiteness. Snow continued falling with only two days' intermission until the 29th. It was the opinion of the oldest settler that more snow had fallen within a week than had been known for more than twenty years. Trains were blockaded and mails delayed until February 13, when the railroads were open, and then for only a few days. Again the snow came down in blinding sheets and scarcely paused until the 25th. By March 3, trains arrived regularly and long delayed mails were joyously welcomed. Warm rains set in, and by April 1, all were rejoiced to hail the balmy breezes of spring.

I am sure everyone living who was in that section of the state, will remember that stormy winter. It was not so intensely cold, but the frequent snow-fall piled drift upon drift and made the streets and country roads well-nigh impassable. But the dauntless spirit of enterprise overcame all obstacles and sleigh-riding was the order of the day and night. Everything with runners was made to do duty, dry goods boxes were fashioned into rude cutters when nothing else could be obtained. One enterprising young man hitched his pony to his mother's rocking-chair and joined the cavalcade, the only hindrance to his enjoyment, there wasn't room for two.

I have wondered why there was no mention of the cholera season of 1855, in any history of Bloomington, so far as I have seen. It may not be wise to speak of the shadowy side in writing of a city, but the history of a half century ago is vastly different. I recollect there had been frequent rains all through the spring and early summer. Vegetation grew rank, and when the sun came out in all his strength after the showers, there seemed to be a miasmatic vapor rising which filled the atmosphere almost to suffocation. Copy from the diary, "July 5, 1855. There have been several cases of cholera, but we hope nothing alarming." After that there are records of its prevalence until August 19, when it says: "Old Archie McCullough died to-day of cholera; also, old Mrs. Guthrie." Martin L. Rowan and his wife both died on the same day. Mrs. Doctor Brown and her daughter were buried in one grave. Mrs. Doty, who lived on East Front street, near the residence of Elijah Depew, prepared dinner for her boarders, was taken with cholera soon after and lived only a few hours. Some of these were people with whom I was acquainted, and the sudden

deaths left an impression that has never been erased. There are other names, and records of a number of deaths where no names are given.

From July 8 until August 11, the weather was exceedingly hot and sultry, the thermometer, several times, standing at 102 and 103 degrees in the middle of the day. August 13, there was held a meeting for humiliation and prayer at the Methodist church, East Charge. I remember, the church was well filled, and the deep solemnity that fell, like a pall, upon the large congregation. The pastors of the city were in attendance. There is nothing here to indicate, and I believe no official report was given at the time, as to how many deaths occurred. I do not remember that there was any especial excitement. Sanitary laws were vigorously enforced, a careful diet recommended by the board of health, and people went quietly and thoughtfully about their business. The absence of birds and flies was noticed by all. A funereal solemnity pervaded the place as daily reports came of one and another who had fallen, and there was a general impression that a large number were being borne to that "city that lies just near the town, Whose tenants all are sleepers."

The first mention of the Young Men's Christian Association is April 3, 1855, when they elected officers, and in June, the same year, Rev. Alfred Eddy spoke before the Y. M. C. A., in Major's Hall. From the diary, "May 15, 1855. A mass meeting of citizens was held at the court house and a fire company organized. Arrangements were made to purchase a fire engine, and a constitution was adopted for the government of the company." "July 11, a foot race came off between members of the company for a $20 gold piece, to the one who runs around the ring ten times in the shortest time. F. Wilson was victorious and got his pay." "July 15, 1855. The oil mill, belonging to Miller & Brooks, burned to the ground last night. Loss, between $5,000 and $6,000." "October 16, 1855. A fire broke out in the stable of the Morgan House about nine o'clock this evening and burned the entire block, except Gridley's bank, which stands alone like a sentinel of defiance to the fire fiend. Loss, estimated at $150,000. It is rumored that it was set by the carelessness of the hostler, who was seen smoking in the barn a few moments before the fire broke out." "October 17. Everything is in terrible confusion. Goods

of all kinds blockade the streets, some are engaged in removing their goods to a place of safety, and others are pulling down the tottering walls by means of ropes. Three men were badly injured by a falling chimney." "October 30. The burnt district is being rapidly built up. If the weather holds good, the first story will be up within a week."

I must relate an incident in this connection, though it did not occur until some years later, I think it was just before the war. A young man employed in a mercantile establishment was also a member of the fire company. He roomed in one of the business blocks and took his meals at a hotel. One morning when the employer went to his place of business, he was surprised to find the store still closed and customers waiting. The young man was usually prompt in all duties and the employer hastened to his room and found him vainly striving to dress his feet; but socks and boots were altogether too small,—and then he told this story. There had been a fire in the night that kept "the boys" at work until one or two o'clock. When he reached his room tired and foot-sore, thinking a cool bath would be grateful to his aching feet, he got a pail of water, and, sitting on his lounge with his feet in the water, he leaned against the wall and fell asleep. When he awoke the sun was shining and he arose to prepare for business with the above result. The employer went out and got the largest pair of slippers that could be found for his use that day.

The winter of 1855-56, unlike the previous one, was intensely cold. There were one or two light snows recorded and some cold in the fore part of December, 1855, but it commenced snowing in earnest a day or two before Christmas, and continued at intervals all through the month of January following, until reports came that it was three or four feet deep in places. A number of Bloomington people went to Springfield to attend the State Teachers' Association, which convened in that city December 27 for a two days' session. The morning of the 28th was cloudy and looked like snow, and some of the party came home that day; those who remained were snow-bound in Springfield until the next week. It was well they came then, for the trains did not run again for ten days or more. That was the time so many members of the state legislature were snow-bound in Bloomington. On the 9th of January, 1856, the thermometer stood at twenty degrees below

zero; in the diary, February 3 is given as colder than any preceding day that winter. The severe cold weather continued until near the middle of February (I have reason to remember that it was Valentine's day). It moderated to a degree that alarmed those who were interested, and a sleighing party was arranged on short notice. There were three loads of joyous, happy young people. The sleighs were of the kind in use at that time for large parties—runners with a wagon box to accommodate the crowd. It may be well to state here that bobsleds did not come into use until some years after. The wagon box was plentifully supplied with straw, and we sat on that, with buffalo robes and plenty of wraps; it was the most comfortable way of riding in the cold known in the history of ages. We went out to a large farm-house about six and a half miles east from Bloomington, where the young people often went merry-making. It may have been a public house in earlier days, for I heard someone call it the six-mile-house. We carried oysters and crackers, and for a consideration, the women of the house and her helpers prepared the oysters and furnished whatever else was needed for a bountiful supper. In one of the rooms the man of the house was seated, and we gathered near him and listened while he told of the early settlement of the country and incidents of pioneer days. He was very entertaining, and I have wished a great many times in my life I could remember his name and the delightful stories he told. Our supper was scarcely over before some anxiety was expressed, by those most interested, about the state of the atmosphere. The wind had changed to the south and the snow was going off so rapidly that if we were to go home as we came, we must start very soon. It was hard sledding, and by the time we had reached Judge McClun's farm the horses refused to take their load another step. So by crowding in very closely the girls all got into one sleigh, a team from one of the other sleighs put with ours, and with four horses we surprised ourselves and our friends by getting home much earlier than was expected. I *guess* the men walked; they told us not to tell and we never did. There was some cold weather with snow after that, but nothing worthy of note. The sudden change in the weather and the large body of snow going off without rain, was almost without parallel in the history of that part of the country. Sometime the next summer we heard that Judge McClun was looking

for the man who left an old sled in front of his place; he wanted it taken away.

The civil war always proves a fruitful theme for tongue or pen of those who passed through the years so fraught with interest to the welfare of our country. Its history has been written again and again, and I attempt nothing of that; but there is one thing I have never noticed in any of the histories of that time, and that is the American Union League. It was a secret organization and was founded in 1861 by Professor Wilkins; its work was of the nature of a detective agency for the protection of our interests in the north. The first organization was in Bloomington and the work was soon taken up and its value recognized all over the loyal north. I did not know of its far-reaching influence until since I left the state I have met people who speak in highest terms of the great good it accomplished at that most crucial time in the history of our country. While there were only a few outspoken enemies to our cause living among us, there were those who came to our northern cities, ostensibly on a visit, who were found to be spies in the interest of the southern army. It was at first thought there would be no need of such a society for women, but an organization was finally effected. Mrs. Mary Waite was our president. Later experiences proved the wisdom of this, and we had the assurance that in two instances—and perhaps more—much good was accomplished. I was deeply interested in Mrs. Saunder's able paper in Volume I of the history of McLean county, on the work of the Soldiers' Aid Society. Every incident there related is well remembered—the entertainments, concerts, continental supper, Mrs. Partington and all. At the supper Mrs. Stephen Smith was dressed as Martha Washington. I also recall a little incident of a concert given for the benefit of the society near the close of the war, where she, who afterward became Mrs. E. M. Prince, sang to the delight of the audience, a song entitled "My Grandmother Told Me So," while the old lady sitting near assented to all the young woman said. I am sure we could both take the role of grandmother now, without any make-up. On a similar occasion Helen Stillwell sang "John Anderson, My Joe," in costume, Mr. E. H. Rood taking the part of John. E. H. Rood himself sang in an impressive manner, "Brave Boys Are They." The audiences on these occasions were always large and sympa-

thetic; great enthusiasm was expressed whenever the flag or our boys in blue were mentioned.

In this paper I have tried to confine myself to entries from diaries previous to 1856 because, since the fire of October, 1855, the record of events can be easily traced. But while I have been following the lines recorded so many years ago, memory has led me very tenderly along back through the pathways of those years. Together

> "We have wandered in that ancient May
> Whose fallen flowers are fragrant yet"

and I have written down some of the tales she told me, hoping they will meet a response in the memories of some of my readers who were living in Bloomington at that time.

DANIEL WILKINS.

BY MARY P. HOOVER.

Daniel Wilkins, Sr., was born in Windsor, Vermont, August 29, 1781, and died April 15, 1854. Susannah Brooks was also born in the same year. They were married January 4, 1805, at Fairfax, Franklin county, Vermont.

Daniel Wilkins, Jr., the subject of this sketch, entered life September 21, 1820,—the tenth child and fourth son. When he was thirteen years old, his parents joined the west-bound army of home-seekers and settled at Newport—now Marine City, Michigan. The next year he shipped as steward and cashier, with Captain Samuel Ward, of Detroit, Michigan, whose sailing vessel took monthly trips around the Great Lakes. With that year's experience, his desire to "roam the seas over" was satisfied.

Mr. Wilkins had early manifested an exceeding fondness for books. He received a common school education, supplemented by one year at the Academy at St. Clair, Mich., and at the age of seventeen commenced teaching at Newport, near his home. He went to Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1842, and to Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, in 1845. He became especially proficient in the languages, and graduated from that institution with the degree of A. B., in 1849, and received the degree of A. M., from the Illinois Wesleyan university in 1853. All through his college life he taught school to defray the expenses of his education. The last two years at Ann Arbor, he had charge of an academy for boys, and kept with his college class by studying nights and mornings. In March, 1850, he was married to Miss Ellen Platt, of Ann Arbor, who was a wise and efficient help-mate through all his life.

He came to Bloomington the winter of 1851, and founded the Central Illinois Female College, where he remained until 1856. His health failed from too close confinement in the schoolroom, and by advice of his physician, he gave up teaching. Professor Wilkins was superintendent of Bloomington schools in 1857-1858.

During that year his chief effort was to establish a graded system of study, urge a higher standard for education, and a uniformity of books. It was by his untiring energy and perseverance that the tax required by the state law for the support of schools was levied in Bloomington, which made the present school system possible. A large number of the citizens, including a majority of the city council, objected to the tax, especially those who preferred to educate their children in select schools. Professor Wilkins was also superintendent of schools of McLean county from 1863 to 1869. His success lay in personal work, visiting all the schools in the county and forming the acquaintance of teachers and pupils. He occupied the Chair of Languages and Natural Sciences in the Illinois Wesleyan University for a number of years, and was regarded as a leader in educational matters in that section of the state. It was his forethought for the future educational interests in Illinois that the first State Teachers' Institute was held in Bloomington, December, 1853. He was one of a committee of three that was chosen to assist in locating the site for the Normal University building. Dr. E. R. Roe and E. W. Bakewell were the other members of the committee. The commission, to show their appreciation of the decision presented each member of the committee with a building lot near the university.

Mr. Wilkins was aggressive in the cause of education and reform, always in advance of the times in which he lived, and was fully appreciated only by those who knew him best.

He became a member of the Order of Good Templars in the early fifties, and a member of the grand lodge soon after. At the Decatur session of the grand lodge in 1867, he was elected grand worthy Chief Templar. Again in 1868 at the session held in Galesburg, again in 1869, the session held at Jacksonville. There he was elected a member of the right worthy grand lodge, which is a supreme body of that order. In 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, and 1874, he served on important committees. The session of 1873, of the right worthy grand lodge met in London, England, Mr. Wilkins was elected to represent the grand lodge of Illinois, at that meeting. March 31, 1873, he received a commission from Gov. John L. Beveredge to represent the state of Illinois at the World's Fair at Vienna. He always regretted his inability to attend either of these great gatherings. He

was also the founder of what was known as the cold water Templars, an order intended for juvenile work. Later, it was changed to the name of Juvenile Templars, numbering something over two hundred thousand members throughout the world, principally in Europe.

In 1861 he founded the American Union League in Bloomington, which a large part of our patriotic men and women joined. This influence broadened until in all our northern cities these leagues were organized and carried on for the benefit of our soldiers in the field.

He was a life-long Methodist, and while in college was ordained a minister. Although he never had any regular charge, he often preached and was always active in all other lines of Christian work.

In 1874, Mr. Wilkins was elected superintendent of the Washintonian Home in Chicago, an institution located on West Madison street, for the reformation of drunkards, and in October of that year he moved his family to the city and entered upon his duties. His well directed zeal in temperance work made him a superior manager of the institution. Both patients and patrons of the place were so well satisfied with his management, that no attempt was ever made to find his successor, until June, 1892, when ill-health forced him to resign. On the 4th of January, in that year, he suffered a stroke of paralysis. It could not have been otherwise —for with his strong will-power and endurance, he would never have given up. Of the three score and ten years of his life, nearly one-third was devoted to the reformation of the inebriate. As superintendent of the Washingtonian Home, his work is pre-eminently in advance of any other man—as thousands of the graduates from the institution in every walk in life and from every state in the Union can testify. His chosen profession was a labor of love, and his daily lectures on the drink-habit were, not only from a physiological point of view, but from a moral standpoint, the result of deep study, uniting as they did the action of law and gospel, which were productive of the awakening of the sense of responsibility and creating a higher aim. These lectures were compiled and published in book form under the title, "The Curse of the World."

While still sorely afflicted physically, the same hope that "an-

chored his soul within the veil" in health, still held fast like a strong cable attached to the world beyond—and by that sure anchorage, he "pulled for the other shore." With steadfast faith and unimpaired mind, he experienced the joys of a well-spent life as a foretaste of sweeter joys to come. Death won no victory over him, but was a friend whose coming he welcomed and whose presence brought infinite relief. Prof. Daniel Wilkins entered into eternal life January 4, 1894, aged 73 years and 4 months. Mrs. Wilkins died December 2, 1899. Their family of five children are living, except Freddie, who died January 6, 1876, of typhoid pneumonia, aged two and a half years.

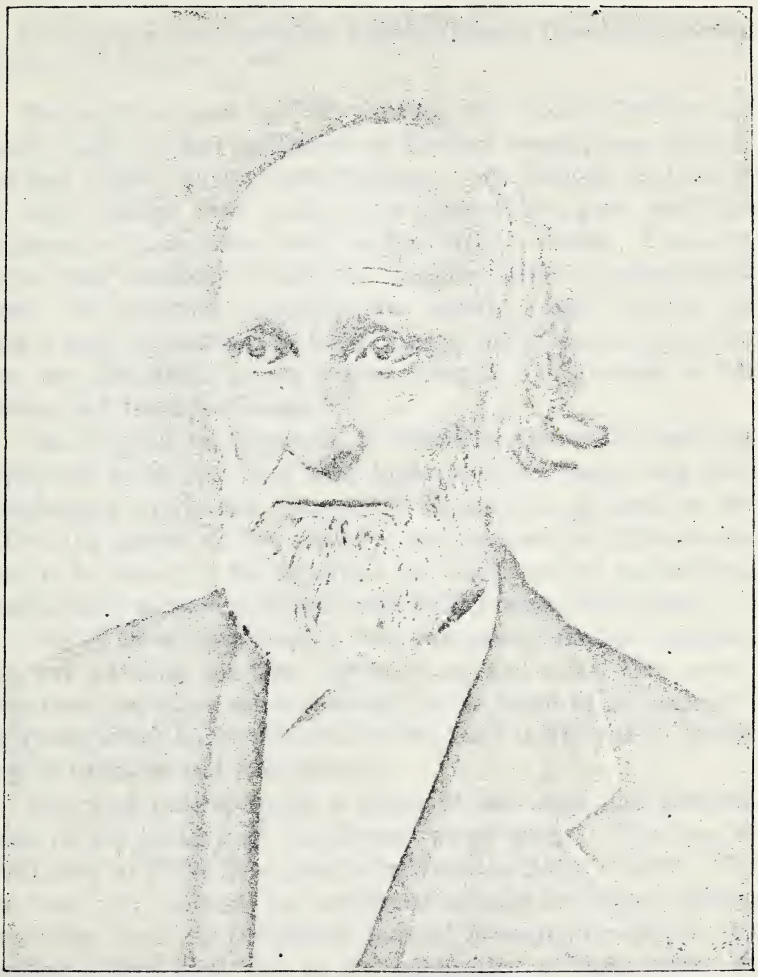
The following was sent by Col. John Sobieski, with a request that it be published with this sketch of the life of Professor Wilkins:

I became acquainted with Mr. Wilkins on the 15th of November, 1867, and our acquaintance continued until his death, a few years ago; and for twelve years I was one of his family, so, I presume I am safe in saying that no one outside of his family knew him better than I, as our acquaintance covered a period of some twenty-eight years. The first three years of our acquaintance was while he was at the head of the order of Good Templars of Illinois.

In all that he did he was thoroughly conscientious and upright. He made one of the most efficient Grand Chief Templars the state ever had. In the supreme body of our order his learning and ability gave him a prominent position. He was always placed on important committees and usually at the head.

There was one thing that prevented Mr. Wilkins from occupying the position that he should have, and that was his extreme modesty. He was so retiring that one had to know him intimately to appreciate his grand qualities of head and heart. It is safe to say that no man ever lived who was any more fully consecrated to the work of blessing mankind than Professor Wilkins.

JOHN SOBIESKI.



F. J. Briggs

Trees of Bloomington and Vicinity.

From a paper given before the Illinois Wesleyan University Scientific Club by J. H. Burnham in 1897.

Seventy-five years ago this spring, Mr. John Hendrix and family made the first settlement in McLean county, near what is now best known as Orendorff Springs. Mr. Hendrix and all of our early settlers were witnesses to some of the most beautiful specimens of trees ever seen in the United States. Blooming Grove then contained about six thousand acres of magnificent forest. Its northern boundary was exactly along the line of what is now Grove street in Bloomington, and where several noble trees are still standing, the largest being in the grounds of the Gridley and Funk residences.

The original forest growth of Blooming Grove was made up largely of white and burr oak, hickory, sugar maple and elm. The fertility of the soil was so far beyond that of most of the soil of the groves of this vicinity, that nowhere in Illinois was there to be found, if we may trust the statements of our settlers, trees as large as were to be met with in this remarkable tract.

One of these noble trees, a burr oak, nearly six feet in diameter, was standing less than five years ago and a few other specimens nearly as large, are occasionally to be found in this interesting grove, which in another seventy-five years is likely to be known only in tradition and local history.

Our first settlers found a grove of less than one hundred acres, in the vicinity of our present water works. This was at first known as Little Grove, and afterwards as Major's Grove. The few trees still standing are considered as part of Major's Grove, but neither these nor the present trees of Blooming Grove give the observer a very good idea of the appearance of these groves at almost any time previous to 1830.

There were many other groves in this vicinity, the most important being Twin and Dry Groves, both of which retain a large

share of the original beauty. I might remark in passing that the late autumn foliage of these two groves, when the sugar maples put on their most gorgeous colors, surpasses anything known in this state, and it is often nearly as beautiful as that of far famed New England. This is an actual fact, as I know from thirty years' observation, having annually traveled all over this state at the season of such foliage.

Could we have seen the beautiful McLean county groves before they were marred by the axe of the pioneer, we should have witnessed scenes of matchless beauty. Lofty masses of lovely verdure would have astonished our wondering vision. The deep green of the sugar maple, the grayish green of the white oak, the dark green of the elm, the lighter hue of the black walnut, and the tender peculiar green of the ash, hickory and other varieties, each well marked and clearly defined at the time of its mature leaf in July; the scene would have constituted a picture such as the trained eye delights to witness, and such as seldom fails to touch the mind of even the most careless and unreflecting.

The appearance of these groves varied with the season.

Covered with the snows or sleets of winter, they glistened gorgeously in the sun, dazzling and fascinating the beholder with their wondrous beauty. When looked up to against the sky in the cold, gray light of a cloudy winter day, their leafless branches interlocking with one another, they appeared to the beholder as nothing else than nature's most delicate lacework, and caused the spectator to wonder if even this undressed beauty could be exceeded by the beautiful verdure of the coming summer. And when the lover of nature had feasted upon the winter and summer beauties of these unrivaled forests, and stood before the same trees clad in their best and latest autumn vestures, what if, spellbound and entranced, he decided that all this wonderful foliage was by far the most beautiful when seen in the last throes of its final dissolution?

[Here followed a list of the trees of this vicinity, which list is given almost verbatim in Peter Folsom's article on page 321 of this volume.]

FOREST RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED.

Our original growths of forest trees are disappearing so rapidly that in seventy-five years more there will be left but few

vestiges of the grand and beautiful forest that so delighted the eyes of our first settlers. Nothing will remain unless a few estates may retain some acres as a curiosity, or unless some of our most generous men of wealth donate to the public some of the few invaluable tree treasures which are still left in this vicinity.

In New England and New York public parks are now being organized by law to preserve as far as possible, a few of the most beautiful of these forest acres for the benefit of future generations, and the example of these older states should most certainly be followed by all. It is actually the duty of this society to demand in behalf of the public, that steps be taken in some manner by the state, by the county, or by men of wealth, to preserve something of our still beautiful natural forests for the benefit of posterity.

It is fortunate for us, however, that even if we lose our beautiful natural groves, we can secure by tree planting, a most satisfactory substitute, because our soil will grow almost every growth, known to this locality. Nearly fifty varieties of trees and shrubs have been planted in Miller park in open spaces, and if the beginning already made is preservingly pursued, there is good reason to believe that Miller park will some day contain a few specimens of all the most common trees which can be looked for in this part of the state.

Bloomington and Normal have so long been the headquarters of the nursery business, we naturally expect to find here quite a great variety of ornamental trees of considerable size, and this expectation can be gratified by a walk through the streets of the two cities.

There was a great demand in Bloomington and Normal about thirty years ago for evergreen trees for ornamental purposes, and large numbers were planted, whose beauty is the frequent remark of visitors. This was very noticeable, and it was believed by many to be peculiar to Bloomington, although as a matter of fact there are as many evergreens in proportion in Galesburg, Champaign and Decatur, while there are many more in Princeton. Someone said that on this account Bloomington deserved to be called the Evergreen City. The newspapers very foolishly took up the suggestion, and the net result is that our city is very feebly and scantily known to some extent by this uncharacteristic designation, and it remains for the future to so discourage its use that the way

may be left open for the adoption of some term which will be of universal acceptance.

OUR ORNAMENTAL TREES.

Besides the pines, spruces, cedars, hemlocks and other evergreens which have been planted in various directions to cheer us in winter by their freshness and never-fading color, we must notice the remarkable richness of the balance of our artificial arborescent flora. Almost all of the thrifty growing varieties of this latitude can be found within a short distance.

The larch and catalpa are two of the most attractive of our shade trees. The former resembles the spruce in growth, but is not an evergreen. It forces itself aloft much after the fashion of another tree which is not a native, the Lombardy poplar, but in foliage, the larch is peculiar to itself. The catalpa is well worthy of notice. Its immense leaves are almost tropical in appearance and when the tree is in flower, its abundant blossoms gives it the appearance of a magnificent bouquet of almost supernatural loveliness.

The Lombardy poplar is not popular, neither is the old-fashioned locust. Both of these trees are sometimes found growing wild. They are now very seldom planted in this vicinity.

The lovely white birch, found wild in a few places in this state, grows finely in cultivation, and is a very valuable addition to our flora. In addition to the trees just mentioned, which have been imported from other places, we can mention the silver leaf poplar, the beech, tulip tree, the Norway maple and a few others, so that with these added to our own rich native arborescent flora, we can challenge the entire world to equal or surpass the trees of Bloomington and vicinity, and the rising generation can look forward to lovely visions in the future, provided the taste of our people keeps pace with the present development of tree culture, and we have good reason to believe the future will, in this respect, surpass the past.

Botanists and artists love to study all the details of tree life. They love to note the differences that exist in nature between the various species. The white pine and the spruce, natives of a harsh and forbidding climate, perched among beetling cliffs, beside rocky caverns, grow straight toward the sky, and, pointing ever

upward, appear intended to lead the mind away from earthly subjects to the contemplation of mountain peaks, lofty clouds, or to the illimitable heaven beyond, but planted on the prairie they harmonize with our landscapes with great difficulty.

OUR SELF-PLANTING TREES.

The gracefully drooping elm, however, with its beautifully rounded outlines, leads us to wander by the softly flowing river, or to gaze contentedly across the lowland meadows, or to watch the sunset clouds as they linger near the gently rolling surface of our beautiful prairie landscapes. Even the honey locust, whose scraggly, thorny, interlocking, widely extending branches almost offend the eye when minutely inspected from close quarters, appears when in full leaf and fully grown, almost as grand as the elm, or as beautiful as the noble oak.

It might be mentioned, by the way, that of the self-planting trees on our Illinois prairies, the honey locust is one of the most vigorous and persistent growers and it bids fair to become our leading variety in the not distant future. The cottonwood and soft maple are also among our most common trees, the former being generally self-planted and the latter having been on account of its rapid growth, entirely too popular along the streets of Normal and Bloomington. I have little patience with the soft maple and cottonwood, and am willing to petition for their extermination along with the English sparrow and other unpopular vermin.

It may be noted also that the willow is a self-planting tree, and with the cottonwood, is rapidly changing the entire aspect of our prairie landscape. The cottonwood makes headway under nearly all kinds of adverse circumstances, and the willow will grow wherever there is a water course or a moist location, battling stoutly against hogs and cattle with the greatest persistency, and its graceful branches and delicate outlines have of late years gone far to modify the barren prairie scenery. The landscape effects of our orchard and fruit trees together with that of self-planted trees and growing hedges, have within the last thirty years, most wonderfully affected the appearance of central Illinois.

I have alluded to the rapid destruction of our forest growth

during the last seventy-five years. I have called attention to the great changes which are taking place upon our prairies from the artificial planting of ornamental trees around residences and by the roadsides, to the verdure of our hedges, to the orchards and fruit trees, and to the self-planted growth of honey locusts, cottonwoods and willows. Now let us contrast the changes, noting the decrease of the forest growth in our groves and the increase of tree growth on our prairies, and we can imagine that the next seventy-five years may entirely remove the distinction between our groves and prairies, leaving us a country which will have tree growths in every direction, but showing nothing whatever of nature's original wildness.

When this change shall have been wholly brought about, future lovers of nature will no doubt deeply lament the recklessness of the present generation, and will regret that the art of landscape decoration shows such meagre effects in this region of unbounded possibilities.

In looking forward to the probable cultivation of the whole of our rich soil, to the possible extinction of every vestige of our native forest growth, and to the utter annihilation of almost every variety of our prairie and woodland flora, it appears to be the duty of some person, or of some organization, some city or county it may be, to sound a note of warning to take some action looking to a preservation of some tracts of our beautiful natural groves. Should we be fortunate enough to thus secure for future generations some portions of our wondrously beautiful natural groves, and should we be able in some manner to add to these forest acres a number of artificially cultivated parks, well filled with all of the arborescent treasures of which this soil is capable, we shall feel tolerably certain that future generations will be able to enjoy all of nature's beauties that our comparatively tame scenery will admit of being brought to their attention.

We have been of late passing through a period of great industrial and financial depression, but it will be remembered that a little over two years ago central Illinois real estate advanced by the most rapid leaps and bounds. Should there be a renewal of that prosperity, our citizens might perhaps be stirred to effective action, but in the present condition of the public mind, he would be a daring enthusiast who would venture to advise the public

to take such steps as have already been found profitable in older communities.

BLOOMINGTON AND NORMAL'S PARK SYSTEM.

I will, however, venture to indicate my meaning more clearly. I assume that Bloomington and Normal from present appearances, are in a fair position to hold their present population, and attract hither large numbers who are likely to make their home wherever they find the best educational advantages, the best society, and the most pleasant surroundings.

Will it not be to our interest to enter into competition with other communities in an endeavor to furnish the best inducements to attract and hold the most desirable class of inhabitants? How can we add to the charms of this vicinity more than by improving its natural advantages? Suppose our county were to follow the example of some other communities and set apart one or two tracts in our prettiest natural groves for permanent parks?

Suppose in addition, there were half a dozen moderate sized parks opened up near the cities of Bloomington and Normal in different directions and all connected by a beautiful park boulevard system? Would not our two cities, perhaps made one city by that time, become noted all over the west as the best known collection of residences, the most homelike and attractive place in the state? It is my opinion that if all this were done in the right spirit, ruled by artistic good taste with all the accessories of home adornment, with moral, religious and educational advantages to correspond, those who live to see the full fruition of such plans, improved upon by further study, will conclude that appreciation of nature's graces and beauties are as profitable as the more prosaic appreciation of rich soil, or the improvement and development of what are known as the more material resources of a community.

It might be added that legal authority to carry out such a scheme is already at hand. The last legislature passed an act under which park districts may be organized taking two or more towns with a common interest, and such a district can purchase and improve, or hold without improvement any and all such tracts, and can connect the same by what are known as park boulevards.

Our neighboring city of Peoria, with some adjoining townships, is already at work upon a scheme of this kind, and the plans adopted contemplate the expenditure of half a million of dollars in the purchase of land, and as much more in its care and adornment.

If the citizens of Bloomington and Normal could be aroused to attempt some such work, in the same spirit that was shown when the Illinois Wesleyan college and the Normal institution were secured, it is my belief that future results would be nearly, if not quite, analogous to what has been accomplished by a former generation in giving these cities such an enviable degree of fame in the educational world.

SECOND ANNUAL PICNIC.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S OUTING.

Yesterday at the Dr. A. E. Stewart homestead in Randolph township was held the second annual picnic of the McLean County Historical Society and the seventy-fifth anniversary of Randolph township. * * * Fully eight hundred people were there and the celebration was a great success. The Heyworth brass band and the Lyric Quartette, of this city, furnished excellent music. * * * Dr. Stewart's home farm, where this picnic was held, is the site of the old home of Alfred M. Stringfield, one of the very oldest of the pioneers of Randolph township. Here in this grove and within fifty feet of the speaker's stand, is the old cemetery "where the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep." * * * Within three hundred and fifty yards of this spot still stands the home of Governor John Moore. * * * Another old house is the original brick residence of Dr. Stewart. This was erected just sixty-four years ago. * * * Addresses were delivered by Dr. Stewart, J. B. Orendorff, Owen Scott, Rev. G. W. Minier and Hon. A. E. Stevenson.—*Pantagraph,* August 25, 1898.

The Historical Society regrets that the addresses of Messrs. Scott, Minier and Stevenson were not prepared for publication.

Sketch of the Life of Captain A. M. Stringfield.

BY HIS OLD NEIGHBOR, A. E. STEWART.

In reading the history of an individual as in that of a nation, due consideration should be given to the environment. The development of a character, whether of a person or a people, will be largely influenced by the environment, the circumstances, date and degree of civilization, under which it is effected; and in forming a correct judgment of its quality and importance, regard must be had to the condition under which it took place. The high char-

acter and strong individuality of Washington would have made him, in a time of peace, only a leader among the country 'squires where he lived, foremost in the chase, a model farmer and perhaps an influential member of the House of Burgesses. It needed not only the personal qualities, but the time, the opportunity, and the fortuitous concurrence of a number of historic incidents to enable him to display, in the eyes of the world, those abilities and characteristics which under different circumstances and at a different time would have made him only a prominent citizen of a country neighborhood. Thus it may, and often does happen, that qualities, ability and character of the very highest type may exist unknown and unappreciated in peaceful times or in obscure places, which under more favorable circumstances or on a larger stage would have brought to their possessor the fortune, the influence and the commanding position to which his native strength of character entitles him. Thus, during the recent rebellion, I knew an officer who possessed, in my judgment, in an eminent degree the aptitude, the ability, the physical and mental qualities which would have placed him, under more favorable circumstances, very high up indeed on the list of commanders, and yet, owing to the want of a proper field for the display of those abilities, he came out of the war substantially as he went in, in a subordinate position, while a brother officer with but a tithe of his ability, by a fortunate combination of circumstances attained a high command and left the service with a brilliant reputation.

Among the ancients, in view of these considerations, a belief prevailed that mankind was dominated by an inexorable Fate, and that individuals and nations had nothing to do but to work out, in ignorance and blindness, the decrees of a higher Power with no liberty of choice or opportunity of selection.

While we of the present day take a more liberal view of the power of the human will to influence surroundings, and overcome obstacles, and thus in a degree shape its own destiny and accomplish its own purposes, there still remains the underlying fact that, to a large degree, humanity is the sport of circumstances, and that natural ability, strength of character and vigor of will are powerless against an obscure position, and unfavorable surroundings.

A pertinent illustration of the foregoing statement is furnished in the case of the individual whose life is the subject of this sketch.

Here was a person of a very robust type of manhood, whose native capacity, energy, promptitude and vigor fitted him in an eminent degree to be a leader among men, to mold the fate of empires and leave the impression of his strong personality upon the customs, the legislation and the character of his age, condemned by adverse circumstances to pass his life in comparative obscurity and to go to his grave a simple farmer, unknown outside of his own county, while some of his contemporaries, with less ability and native worth, attained a high degree of prominence and a national reputation.

Alfred Moore Stringfield came of good old revolutionary stock. His great-grandfather came to Virginia from England in the eighteenth century. His name was Richard Stringfield and little is known concerning his career.

His son, James, was born in Virginia, but afterwards joined in the movement westerly and died in Kentucky. His son, John, the father of our subject, first saw the light in North Carolina, and was an active participant in the important battle of King's Mountain, and in several minor engagements. He was also engaged in the war of 1812, in which he was accompanied by his oldest sons, James and Thomas, the latter of whom was severely wounded in the forehead by an Indian, and afterwards became a leading preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church, besides being for some years editor of the Southwest Christian Advocate.

He was one of the very first to proclaim the Gospel in what is now McLean county, having preached in the house of Mr. Hendryx on the south side of Blooming Grove in the autumn of 1824 to a few friends gathered together, he being at that time on a visit to the subject of this sketch, in Randolph's Grove. He was a man of more than ordinary strength of character, and when the writer saw him, perhaps about 1840, was a man of very venerable appearance and preached with a rugged eloquence not often surpassed. Indeed it may be said of the elder Stringfields, as far as my observation goes, that they were all men of positive, aggressive dispositions and great native force.

Descended from such honorable lineage, the subject of the present sketch first saw the light near Murphysboro, Tennessee, October 14, 1809. His father seems to have been a man of more than the average education which obtained in those days, as he did

some land surveying and some of his old copybooks are still in existence among his descendants, containing problems carefully worked out, as was the custom in those days, in pen and ink, instead of the slip-shod slate and blackboard methods of the present day.

He was also a man of considerable property, and together with his farming operations for several years maintained a ferry across the Tennessee river. This, however, was after a residence of several years in Huntsville, Alabama, to which place he moved in 1810 or 1811. He seems, also, to have lived for some time in Kentucky, but the exact place is unknown. Indeed, the student of that period is surprised at the migratory habits of the inhabitants of the border states. Instances of a family coming into a neighborhood, and making it a fixed residence so as to become rooted to the soil, living and dying upon the same spot, were comparatively rare. The population seems to have been in a sort of flux and reflux from the older to the newer states, and between one section and another, according as views of more desirable locations, better hunting, better water or better soil were slowly disseminated among the settlers.

Land was to be had for the taking; there were no large cities to serve as centers of attraction and population, and the inhabitants simply floated about as inclination prompted, as they sacrificed little by leaving a neighborhood, the same advantages being possessed in an equal degree by all the others. It is not, perhaps, to be wondered at that in this semi-nomadic life little record was made of changes which happened so frequently as to be unworthy of record, and no importance attached to a location that might be abandoned the next day.

It is not strange, therefore, that after the passing of two generations, dates and places are of doubtful authority and uncertain geography. Thus it is that we have now no certain information as to just where upon the Tennessee river the ferry in question was located, or just how long the family resided there. It is certain that they staid long enough to become somewhat identified with the locality and to have a certain standing as people of property and influence, for about 1816 the head of the family became security for others in so large a sum that upon the failure of the enterprise, whatever it was, he suddenly found himself, without

fault on his part, stripped of all his possessions and reduced to a state which we should now regard as abject poverty.

In the meantime a family of five sons and five daughters had been born, some of whom had married, but none of whom were in a condition to afford material aid.

In this state of affairs, a consultation seems to have been held with his two sons-in-law, Gardner Randolph and James Burleson, which resulted in a determination to abandon Tennessee and seek a retreival of their fortunes in the then almost unknown northwest territory. Some years before the Stringfields' oldest brother James, mentioned as having been in the war of 1812, had become a preacher in the Methodist church, and, with the fiery zeal which distinguished that class of people, had pushed across the Ohio river and made a settlement upon what was then the extreme verge of civilization, the Sangamon river, in what afterwards became the state of Illinois.

With only an imperfect knowledge of the location of his brother, and a still more imperfect knowledge as to the obstacles to be encountered in getting there, but with a superb self-reliance upon his own ability to go anywhere he chose, Stringfield with his two sons-in-law and their families sometime about the year 1819 turned his back on the crude civilization to which he had become accustomed, and fearlessly turned his face northward to penetrate an unknown wilderness, without towns, ferries, bridges or roads, and guided only by the most meager descriptions of the country, and those generally wrong, and by the same sort of instinct that guides the wild geese in their annual migration towards the north pole.

No account of the journey has come down to us, except that they seem to have spent two years on the Wabash river in what is now White county, but finally pushed on across the trackless prairie or through the equally trackless forest, up to a point on the Sangamon river a few miles above where Springfield now stands, and near where the older brother James had established himself a few years before. The exact date of this settlement is in dispute, and furnishes another instance of the carelessness of the pioneers in making any record of their movements for the information of their descendants. The total absence of any public records to which to refer, the total lack of newspapers, which had not yet penetrated

thus far westward, and a curious carelessness not easily understood in these days of reporters and records, leaves a large part of the history of those times a perfect blank. In what year they started, where they crossed the Ohio, how long they staid in White county, even the year in which they arrived at their destination, all these are at best only guesses at the truth, and while approximately correct, allow a wide margin for speculation and dispute, amply improved by the descendants of the different branches of the family, as their fancy or imagination may dictate.

All that is definitely known is that soon after he arrived at his brother's house, the elder Stringfield suddenly sickened and died, probably in the winter of 1822, leaving his widow with her three youngest sons and her two youngest daughters, to face as best she could the privations and hardships incident to a pioneer life.

From this point we are able to trace the history of Alfred, the youngest son, with some degree of certainty, although, even at this period, there is a want of positive information as to dates, especially very perplexing to the student of this day striving to make his story accurate if not interesting.

It is singular how little importance seems to have attached to dates at this early period in our history. No events of national importance, such as war or pestilence, occurred about that time to furnish a point of departure for our investigation. "The sad and simple annals of the poor" afford few incidents of a nature sufficiently striking to make them memorable, even to the actor, and the very meager education, amounting in this case upon the part of our subject, simply the ability to read and write, with an elementary knowledge of arithmetic, little history, less geography, and no grammar at all, rendered the recording of any event of ordinary interest laborious and unlikely.

Perhaps I may as well say here, lest I forget it later, that in spite of the lack of education in early years, Captain Stringfield became, in after life, a man of varied and extensive information, with a good general knowledge of history, especially that of his own country, and no small acquirement in theology, a subject whose subtle distinctions, and ingenious theories seem to have possessed for him an unusual attraction. His perceptive faculties were remarkable, his memory singularly tenacious, and he possessed in an eminent degree that readiness of resource and what might be

called *nimbleness* of mind, which rendered him a dangerous antagonist in debates, of which he was singularly fond, and made him, in spite of some mannerisms and odd expressions, a forcible and entertaining public speaker. We now find our subject at the tender age of twelve years, thrown upon the world, not only to support himself, but also, with an older brother (Sevier), the sole support of his mother and sisters, a task which the activity, energy and self-reliance of the females of the family rendered less burdensome than might be supposed, the girls being quite ready and willing to take a full share in the active duties, not only of such housekeeping as obtained at that day, but to drive, ride, chop and dig, as well as their brothers.

The two sons-in-law, Randolph and Burleson, becoming dissatisfied with the Sangamon location, had already, before the death of the elder Stringfield, pulled up their stakes and made a settlement in Randolph's Grove, and their report of the beauty and advantages of their new location, determined the Stringfield family to follow in their footsteps. The two boys, accordingly, came on horseback early in the spring of 1823 to the cabin, or rather to the rude hut which Randolph had been occupying for the last few months. The other son-in-law, Burleson, joined them in a few days, and the two men and two boys set out on an exploring expedition, to select a suitable home for the new settlers. Our subject was left next day at the home of Mr. Rhodes, in Blooming Grove, and remained there playing with the Indian boys until the return of the others. They visited all the groves in the vicinity, but found nothing that suited them so well as the place where Randolph had already located, and accordingly returned and built a rude hut, or more properly a camp, being only a shed with a log-heap in front, about three-quarters of a mile east of Randolph's cabin, now the Stewart homestead. Here the two lads of fourteen and twelve, respectively, set to work bravely to make a home for their mother and sisters and themselves. They cleared off an acre or two of the hazel and sassafras back of their camp, and with their little "bull-tongue" plow, broke up and planted the first land that was ever cultivated in Randolph township, for although Randolph had been there a year before he does not seem to have tried to raise a crop, preferring his usual method of depending on his gun for a living, his Indian neighbors being able to furnish him the small amount

of corn his necessities required. The usual conception of the Indians, as subsisting entirely upon meat, is not correct so far as the tribes living in that vicinity is concerned. The squaws of each family always contrived to raise a little corn every year, and had several methods of preparing it, manifesting a good deal of skill in varying their dishes to suit the not very fastidious tastes of their families. The hunting expeditions of the tribes were always arranged so as not to interfere with the rude cultivation of the corn crop, and of necessity each year cultivated the same little patch of ground, gave to these Indians, at least, a more settled character than we are apt to attach to our idea of their habits. It may not be out of place to consider here the reason why the pioneers invariably made their settlements just within the borders of the groves that dotted the country.

Besides the paramount necessities of shelter and fuel, there was another quite sufficient reason for their choice. The main body of the groves was covered with a heavy growth of large trees, the felling and clearing up of which would have involved great labor and delay. The prairie proper was covered, up to the timber line, with a dense growth of coarse, rough, tall grass springing from a sod so thick, so tough and so interlaced with roots and fibres, that it took a good ax and a sharp blow to cut through it. Indeed so tough and permanent was this sod, that the writer has seen a wall or fence made of it, cut out with an axe and spade, which resisted the attacks of rain and frost for several years. This was upon the old "Dean" place, now the Pierce farm, four miles south of Bloomington, and will be remembered by many old settlers yet living.

As may be readily seen, the poor teams and rude plows of the pioneers could do nothing with such a sod, and it was not for several years after this period that a huge plow was constructed, set upon wheels, and with a wooden mold-board, to which all the oxen in the settlement, sometimes as many as six yokes or pairs were attached by strong chains, which tore its way through the ground, with a cracking of whips and a snapping of "red roots" and "shoestrings" that could be heard a half mile away. Much cheap wit has been expended on our forefathers for taking the trouble to clear off timber land, when countless acres of rich prairie lay contiguous already cleared and ready for the plow-share, but, as a matter of

fact, they did the very best they could. If the land was ready for the plow, the plow was not ready for the land, and it was several years after the period we are considering, when the breaking of prairie sod became practicable. When it did become practicable, it was followed as a regular business by some one who could command sufficient teams and a plow, and who broke up his neighbor's land for him, for a sum ranging from two dollars to three dollars an acre, depending upon the toughness of the sod, but partly upon the length of the "lands" to be plowed, for it was seldom that an eighty-acre tract could be found that was not cut in some direction by a "slough" or bog, not to be crossed in the "breaking season," the early part of the summer, and necessitating frequent turnings, which, with their long, unwieldy teams and plows, took up a good deal of time. In the edge of the timber land, however, there was always a strip neither prairie nor timber, where the annual prairie fires stopped their sweep, and which, as a sort of neutral zone was occupied by a growth of hazel, plum and sassafras sufficiently dense to kill out the sod, and so stop the fire, and yet with bodies and roots small enough to be easily mastered by the pioneer's ax and mattock. Hence, by common consent, these points were chosen by the early settlers for their small fields, and were comparatively easy of cultivation. In this choice, as in so many other cases, they but followed the example of their dusky neighbors, who were by no means lacking in practical sense, though, according to our ideas, they made but a poor use of it.

The ensuing four years were, for our subject, years of the most laborious drudgery, with but discouraging results. There was absolutely no money in the country and such business as was done was altogether in the nature of barter of pelts, etc., and of the interchange of various articles to suit the various needs or fancies of the settlers.

The country filled up very slowly. The long line of wagons from Ohio had not yet ventured across the immense prairies to the east, and nearly all the inhabitants were stragglers from various states and there was but little of a permanent character in the settlement, many, discouraged after a year or two, drifting back to their respective starting points or straggling away to some other grove which seemed to offer them better opportunities.

The civilization was of the most primitive character. There were no schools, and no church privileges except such as were afforded by the occasional visit of a wandering preacher, usually belonging to the Methodist church.

Upon one of these occasions young Stringfield, who had always been religiously inclined, connected himself with the Methodist denomination, and was a member of the first Methodist class that was ever organized in the county, at the home of his uncle, Gardner Randolph.

He continued from this time on to his death an active, consistent and devoted member of the church, filling all the minor offices with zeal and efficiency, and contributing liberally of his time and means to the support of the ministry, and by his generous contributions to the various enterprises of the church, sometimes seriously embarrassing his own limited resources.

His house continued to the day of his death to be the headquarters for all the preachers of his denomination, and it was probably from this close association with young ministers, naturally full of doctrinal discourses and arguments that he imbibed that fondness for controversy and taste for discussion already mentioned. Nothing afforded his active mind more pleasure than to delve into the subtleties of theology, and it was as surprising as it was interesting to hear this untutored backwoodsman discoursing intelligently upon the distinctions between the Homoousions and the Homoiousians among the early fathers of the church. And let it not be supposed that this was mere display upon his part. Such was the grasp of his mind and the clearness of his intellect that he readily comprehended the intricate points he so frequently discussed, and thus was able to discuss intelligently abstruse subjects not often mentioned in ordinary society. In such matters, as in all others, he conceived definite, positive opinions upon all disputed points, which he defended with address and tenacity upon all occasions, and no one, in his presence ever controverted one of his cherished convictions without meeting a prompt, intelligent and energetic response.

His taste for discussion continued throughout his life, and he would ride for miles in the night-time to take part in debates at country school houses, upon which occasions his tenacious memory,

fertility of resource and readiness of speech made him no mean antagonist.

He was, indeed, a born fighter, and thoroughly enjoyed a discussion upon religious or political subjects, being a strong partisan, and quite unable to see but one side of a question.

After four years of drudgery and privations in their little cabin upon their little "claim," the Stringfields found themselves not much better off than at the beginning, and began to ask themselves "What next?"

They were not getting ahead, except by the natural increase of the little live stock they possessed, and their prospects were gloomy indeed. The two boys were now well-grown, strong and active, and regular "gluttons" for work. The trouble was that there was little for them to do outside of their own claim, and absolutely no money in the country to pay them with even if work could be had.

It is hard to realize how a whole community could get along for several years without money, but it seems that is just what they did. Probably the whole settlement could not have raised five dollars in silver all put together.

The boys reasoned that pretty soon the land about them would come into market, and that only money would avail them at the land office. Such groceries as they had to have were obtained at Springfield or Fort Clark, as Peoria was then called, by trading a little wheat or skins, but no cash was involved in the transaction.

Their clothes were, of course, of the most primitive description and cost them no outlay.

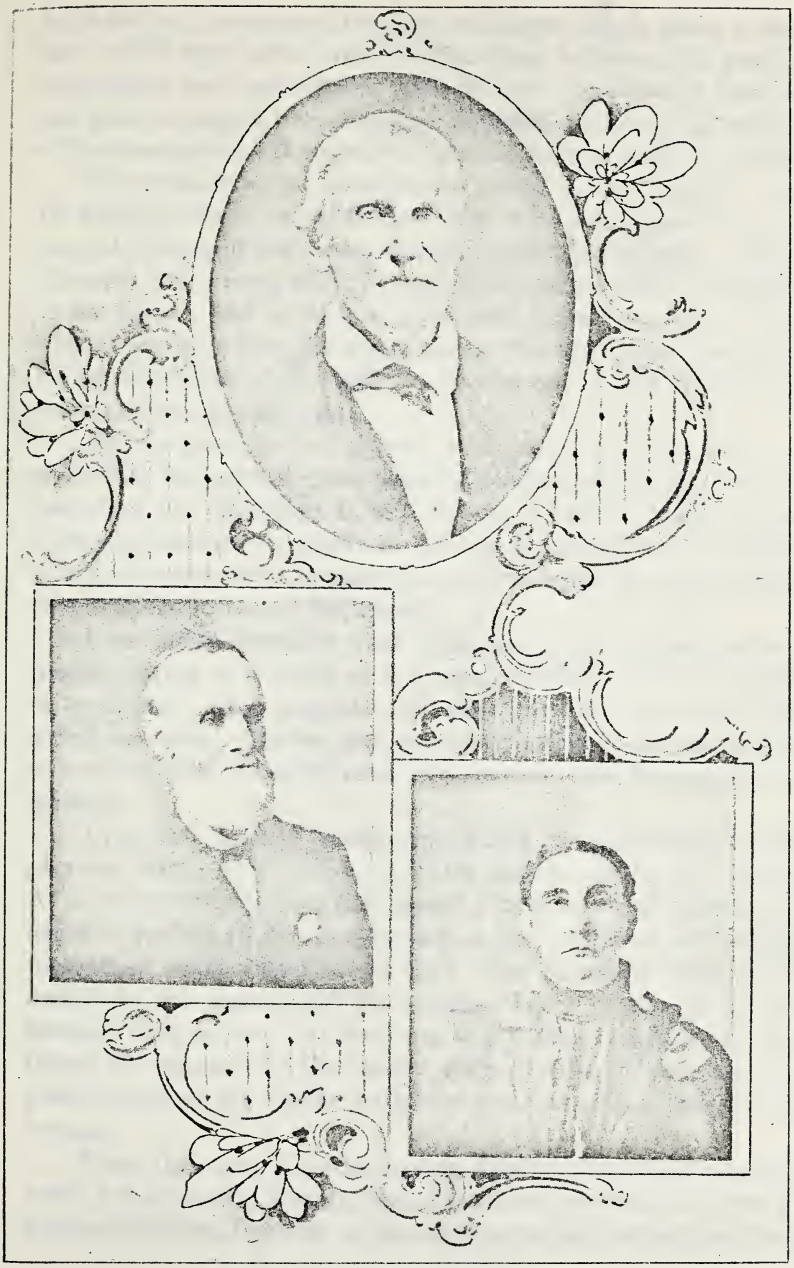
Each family raised a little patch of flax for linen and a few sheep for wool. The boys dressed the flax and sheared the sheep, and the old mother took charge of the rest. Their raiment was not of the finest texture or the latest fashion, but such trifles troubled them very little. What they must have to enable them to get a foothold was some ready money, and that was absolutely not in the country. In this dilemma tidings reached them of the discovery of lead ore near Galena, and a mild excitement, similar to the late Klondike fever, pervaded the settlement when it became known that at Galena actual money was in circulation, and that a laborer could put the fruits of his toil in his pocket, instead of in his mouth or on his back as food or clothing.

The Stringfields were not long in making up their minds to try their fortunes in the new country. They loaded their goods into the wagon that had brought them to the country, and another rude affair which had come into their possession, and which, with two additional yokes of oxen, represented all they had been able to accumulate during four years of arduous labor.

The widow, the two boys and a daughter, Virginia, who afterward became Mrs. Robert Funk, made up the party, which, with two wagons and four yokes of oxen (they still had no horse), took up their march for the new attraction, early in the spring of 1827.

They left their little cabin and the few acres they had cultivated in Randolph's Grove in their Uncle Randolph's care, though, of course, they had no legal right to it, and any one coming into the neighborhood might have moved in so far as the legal right was concerned. There was, however, an unwritten law prevailing which forbade any one "jumping" another's claim. So strictly was this enforced, that the next year a man named Sherman, settling upon a claim near by which had formerly been occupied by another found himself completely ostracised by the neighbors that he was literally starved out, and had to move away. The word "boycott" had not then been invented, but the thing it represents was well-known as the above illustration will show.

At that time there was no well-defined road leading to Galena, or indeed to anywhere else. Guided by old Indian trails, such scanty information as they could pick up, and a sort of blind instinct akin to that of migratory birds, they made their way by where the town of Washington, Tazewell county, now stands, and thence skirting up the Illinois river to Ottawa and thence to Dixon, where there was a settlement and a ferry, and where they crossed the Rock river. They continued by a series of zig-zags from one grove to another, and from one settlement to another, until in a little more than a month they reached their destination upon Fever river, which appears to have been rightly named, as they found at least one-third of the inhabitants suffering with the familiar chills and fever. Of this disease, then so prevalent, and now, happily, so rare, it may be said that the pioneers accepted it as they did many other evils, as a sort of matter of course, and in the sickly season, which lasted from August to November, always made calculations



WILLIAM ORENDORFF.

JOHN LEWIS ORENDORFF. MARY M. WALKER ORENDORFF.

to be laid up a portion of the time with ague, which seems to have been looked upon rather as a nuisance than a disease, the patients going about their usual duties until the time for the chill came on, and going on again when the fever subsided, with some grumbling at the interruption but not regarding the disease as anything serious.

The present writer remembers a period in the "forties" when for several years he expected ague, just as he did watermelons as a natural adjunct of the season, though, indeed, less pleasant. Every alternate day, during the fruit season, he had his chill as regularly as his dinner, and alternately froze and burned an hour or two when the fever, getting the upper hand of the chill, raged unchecked for several hours, after which he crawled out of bed, drank some coffee and was himself again.

He was none the less expected to do his share of the work, except while the paroxysm was actually in force, and upon the alternate days was considered as well as ever. Various domestic remedies were resorted to, chiefly in the way of sundry herbs and teas, usually so nauseous as to make the sufferer forget the throes of the disease in the terrors of the remedy.

I remember especially elder bark, which was supposed to be a specific, acting as a vomit or a purge, according as it was peeled up or down! As I remember, all they gave me must have been peeled upwards. Quinine was unknown, although Peruvian bark was spoken of as a remedy more from hearsay than from actual experience.

Upon this journey, young Alfred had an opportunity to display his ability as a runner, of which he was always very proud. At a point on Rock river they found a large camp of Indians engaged in various athletic games, such as running races and playing football, of which they are very fond. The Stringfield boys joined readily in the games, and the younger being challenged by the fleetest young warrior to a foot race of a hundred yards, easily distanced his opponent to the intense disgust of his fellows, and the great delight of the squaws, with whom he was quite a hero during his stay.

Upon their arrival at the mining district, they at once secured work, not at mining directly, but at the more profitable business of hauling ore from the mine to the smelting works, and also in haul-

ing wood to the same point, and so fortunate and so energetic were their efforts that by the next spring Alfred was able to gratify a long felt desire and buy himself a horse, upon which he returned to Randolph's Grove in April, 1828, and, upon his representation of the properity attending the mining business, within a month had organized a party of five families with which he returned, piloting it over the same devious route he had traversed the year before.

That autumn, however, the health of his aged mother gave way and the two sorrowing boys laid her body away in a grave, all trace of which, unfortunately, has been lost in the lapse of years.

Partly from grief at the loss of their mother, and partly from a feeling of home-sickness, none of their relatives having followed them to Fever river, the boys soon after loaded up their household goods and returned to Randolph's Grove, considering their time as having been well spent as they had accumulated a little ready money, the first they had ever possessed. They found the settlement growing rapidly, and more opportunities for employment than before. The business of raising hogs, which has since grown to such immense proportions, was then just in its infancy. So extensive was the range and so abundant the crop of acorns that the animals grew to maturity almost without attention, being practically wild and quite able to take care of themselves in all weathers. When they reached maturity, which was not generally until they were two years old, they were gathered up as closely as possible, shut up in a pen, and fed corn for a month or two to finish them and get rid of a sort of oiliness in their flesh, brought on by their acorn diet, as well as to harden the meat and make it more palatable. After a few weeks of corn ration, they were ready for the buyer, who came along on horseback, carying with him a large steel-yard capable of weighing about 500 pounds, and a rude sort of sling of leather generally made of the breeching of the heavy harness then in use. Going into the pen, the steel-yard and sling were hung upon a convenient limb, the hogs seized one at a time by main force, their bodies caught up in the sling, and the weight ascertained and checked off amid abundant laughter and enthusiasm among the helpers, who comprised the whole neighborhood, and much resistance and squealing from the swine.

In those days hogs were bought by what was called "net weight," that is, after the gross weight was ascertained, a deduction

of one-fifth was made for offal and shrinkage, and the price computed upon the result. As this operation had to be repeated upon each hog to settle guesses and bets upon the part of the helpers, it required a good deal of figuring, at which young Stringfield became very proficient, and was generally called upon whenever a hog buyer made his appearance in the neighborhood.

Frequently, however, the buyer and seller came to terms by the shorter method of "guessing off" the average weight of a drove, and it is astonishing how expert some people became in estimating the weight, not only of individual animals, but of whole droves comprising pigs of all sizes and weights, the result, when found at the scales, only varying a few pounds from the estimate of the expert.

Captain Stringfield prided himself, to his dying day, on his ability to guess the weight of any animal, and was often called upon as an expert to decide matters when a different opinion existed between buyer and seller.

He at once became actively engaged in the business of buying and marketing hogs, generally in company with his brother-in-law, Jesse Funk, and for several years it was his principal enployment in the winter months.

The market, for several years the only one, was in the mining region around Galena, and afterwards on the Illinois and Michigan canal and at Chicago, and the hardships, exposures and fatigues incident to a winter trip of such length can only be faintly imagined in these days of fast trains and palace cars.

The hogs, which were of native breed, long-legged and active, were abundantly able to make the trip and, as they were usually quite fat, at least when the start was made, did not usually suffer from cold, though some instances are on record of a whole drove perishing in a particularly furious snow storm. They were, however, half wild, some of them several years old and extremely self-willed, unruly and vicious.

One observing the sleek, well-fed animal of the present day, too lazy to get out of the way, can have little idea of the fierce, bristly, savage animals of that day, growing up in the deepest woods, unaccustomed to restraint, not used to the presence of man, and with a strong home instinct which made them strongly resist being driven away and often brought them back to their native lairs

after being driven half way across the state. No one who has not tried it himself can conceive what a task it is to stop a half-crazed brute of this kind, with his formidable tusks, quite capable of ripping open a horse with a single thrust, and a hide quite insensible to blows. When such an animal, shutting its eyes, makes a blind rush for liberty, about the only safe thing to do is to get out of its way—if you can. Each day's drive was enlivened by a number of escapades of the liveliest description. There were no fences along the road to hold the drove together. Indeed, there may as well have been no roads so far as the hogs were concerned.

The camp was roused at daybreak or before, and after a hasty breakfast of corn bread and coffee the hands, usually numbering six or eight, routed out the hogs from the piles in which they had slept over night, and started them along, heading them in the general direction they wanted them to go. Two men kept along each side to act as flankers, while the others brought up the rear and with shouts and blows urged the stubborn brutes along. A wagon with the camping outfit and provisions followed in the rear, into which was occasionally loaded by main force a particularly contrary animal, or one which broke down or got lamed in an effort to escape. Every little while through the day the cry would be heard "look out! there's a rusher," and a bristling head would be seen reared above the rest, and a big, wild-eyed brute would be seen crowding his way towards the edge of the drove. Two of the men in the rear ran up alongside and met him as he came out of the throng, and with shouts and blows endeavored to force him back among his companions, generally without success. Shutting his eyes and opening his huge jaws, the brute makes his headlong dash for liberty, as irresistible as an elephant and far more dangerous. His two antagonists hang upon his flank with various attempts to check or turn him towards the drove, encouraged by loud shouts from the others of "trip him up with your foot," "catch him by the tail," "jump aboard and ride home," etc., and the fun grows fast and furious. The most approved method, when they failed to turn or stop their antagonist and could get near enough to him, which was often not until a long chase, for the hogs in those days were built for speed, was to throw themselves boldly on his back, catch him by the ears and hang on till he dropped from sheer exhaustion, but this was a feat, which, while

it looks easy, requires a good deal of nerve and quickness of eye and tenacity of grip to succeed. When the fierce animal was finally quelled, the men often found themselves a mile or more away from the drove, which in the meantime had kept moving, and sometimes it would be some hours before they could rejoin the rest. Of course, two or three rushes of this kind so depleted the force that the drove had to be stopped and held until the hands could be gathered together again. Such delays caused slow progress to be made, and ten miles was considered a good average day's drive.

The owner, being on horseback, usually rode ahead about noon and endeavored to secure a load of corn at the settlement towards which they were headed, but quite often could not succeed, and it was no uncommon thing for the drove to go two or three days without food, when the shrinkage became a matter of some importance. The command of such an expedition as this exactly suited young Stringfield's taste, and developed his faculties of promptness and self-reliance to a remarkable degree. It also developed his muscles, and he prided himself no little upon having, upon a challenge, carried a barrel of salt across the Illinois river upon the ice, and was always ready to shoulder a sack containing five bushels of wheat, or to "chin a limb" as it was called, that is draw himself up by his hands twenty-seven successive times at one effort. As a result of this kind of a life, he soon became, by common consent, recognized as a leader at the different gatherings, such as barn raisings, etc., and when the militia was organized by Governor Reynolds in 1832, he was appointed captain in the Thirty-ninth regiment, a title which remained with him for the rest of his life, though his actual service extended only over a few years when the "annual muster" law was repealed.

Many entertaining stories are told in Randolph's Grove concerning Captain Stringfield's feats of agility and strength, several of which are preserved in Professor Duis' "Good Old Times in McLean County," a work much sneered at by some, but which I have always found extremely valuable and entertaining and fully as accurate as more pretentious histories.

Concerning this matter of accuracy there is this to be said: It was Professor Duis' habit, after writing a sketch of a person from the best information he could get, to submit it to him for correction, sometimes more than once, and hence such mistakes as to

dates, etc., which occur, should be attributed not to the author, but to the carelessness or lapse of memory of his informants, who were the persons most interested. The book itself is a veritable mine of old settlers' stories and adventures, and will be more prized by future generations than by the present.

One criticism of his book is this, that he had no sort of personal knowledge of early times such as is possessed by every one raised in this country, and thus was utterly unable to judge of the credibility of any story submitted to him, but innocently put down whatever statement was given him, and thus sometimes became the victim of absurd and impossible stories told him by mischievously inclined persons, often among the old settlers themselves.

To this class belongs the professor's story that Captain Stringfield was in the habit of chasing wolves on foot and capturing them by superior fleetness. Probably Duis misunderstood the captain, or the latter was simply, in a spirit of mischief, practicing upon his credulity, as it took a pretty swift horse to overtake a wolf.

What the captain really did, out of sheer bravado, was to run down a wolf with his old black mare until he was close upon it, and then suddenly seize it, a feat for which he carried a bad scar to his grave, for the fierce animal turning suddenly upon him siezed his arm with such a snap that his teeth met through the flesh just below the elbow. Nothing daunted, however, he shook it loose, overpowered it, tied it with his suspenders, and carried it home in triumph to be baited by all the dogs in the settlement.

He did not, however, excel as a hunter, and really spent very little time in the chase, having more serious matters to claim his attention.

In 1825, at the house of William Walker of Blooming Grove, he attended the first Sunday school ever held in the county, having Rev. James Latta for superintendent. He was much interested in the work and was for many years superintendent of a Sunday school in his own neighborhood.

About the year 1830 he began to put together his little savings with a view to enter some land as soon as the land office which was to be established at Vandalia should be ready for business. Finding that he had not enough money to enter a half section, which was his ambition, he hit upon an ingenious plan to keep any-

one else from getting what he was unable to pay for himself. He made his entry of 160 acres in two strips across a section, leaving between them a strip of land only forty rods wide and a mile long, rightly judging that no one would want a piece of land of that shape and thus held it for several years, when he was able to buy the strip himself, and so connect his separate tracts into the body of land upon which he spent the rest of his life.

In the year 1830 he and his brother, Sevier, sold the claim upon which they first settled to Samuel Stewart, and it remains in the possession of his heirs until the present day (1898).

From this period his life becomes one in common with the other early settlers.

The fall before the deep snow, upon a trip to Chicago with an ox team, a prairie fire frightened his oxen in the night while grazing, and they were forced away in front of the flames and so drifted out of his reach. He borrowed a horse and hunted for them diligently for several days, but could find no trace of them, and was forced to return on foot without them, regarding them as lost. Some time the next spring word reached him that four oxen were at large in the woods near the head of the Iroquois river, and upon making search he found that all the animals had survived the rigors of that terrible winter, subsisting mainly upon the tender shoots put up by stumps of trees that some wood-choppers had cut down the year before. Considering that the cold had been so severe as to almost exterminate the deer all over the state, the survival of these cattle must be considered remarkable.

The most important event in Captain Stringfield's life occurred in 1832, when, on March 25, he married Miss Amelia Hand, a daughter of a local preacher who lived some miles distant. There were no bridges in those days, and the captain, upon his wedding morning, found himself separated from the object of his affections by a flood in the Big Kickapoo, which rendered it nearly half a mile wide. Such a trifling matter did not deter the ancient bridegroom, however. He tied his wedding suit, probably his only one, in a bundle which he fastened upon his shoulder, rode his old black mare into the icy water and boldly swam across.

Upon his return the next day, with his bride on the same horse behind him, as was the custom, he found the water still raging and the couple crossed the stream in the same manner, but tradition is

silent as to what disposition he made of his clothes upon this occasion.

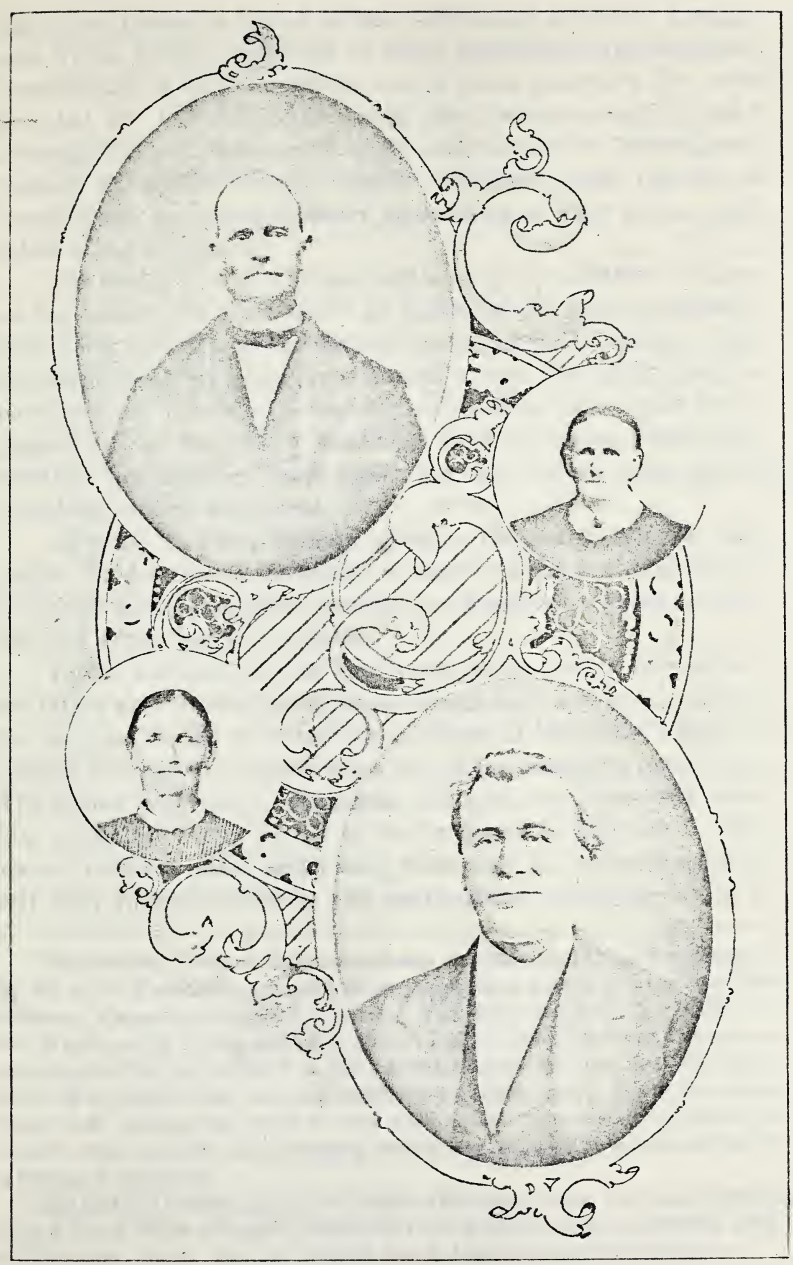
This black mare, by the way, was his favorite saddler, indeed his only one for a number of years. She carried him in successful chase after many a deer and wolf, and was his main dependence for journeys, visiting or for the whole family. She was particularly trustworthy for swimming the creeks as mentioned above.

When his family increased, it was nothing unusual for him to take his wife and the whole brood upon old "Nelly" and ride, unhesitatingly, into the turbid and swollen stream which ran near his house, and it made no difference to him whether it was fordable or not, he crossed it just the same.

Upon more than one occasion I have seen him upon a ride down to the ford with his wife and three children on the trusty animal, and plunge boldly into the swollen stream. He would cross his feet in front of the saddle, take a baby on each arm, and trust the instinct of his mare to take them safely across. His wife sat on the animal behind the saddle, one arm clasped around her husband's waist, and the other holding the youngest child, and holding her feet stretched out straight in front of her to keep them out of the water. Nelly was a high swimmer, and it was seldom that anybody got wet, and when they did it was regarded more as a joke than otherwise. People didn't stand upon trifles in those days, and so trifling a matter as a wetting, even in freezing weather, was hardly thought worthy of mention.

Captain Stringfield was peculiarly fortunate in his domestic relations. His wife was a woman of great vitality and more than usual strength of character. She made him a worthy companion for over fifty years, and the ten children she bore him grew up, except two who died in infancy, honest, industrious, God-fearing men and women. He took great comfort in his children and grandchildren, and was never seen to better advantage than when they clustered around his knees to listen to the fascinating stories of his boyhood.

Until the day of his death his house continued to be the general headquarters for the children and grandchildren, among whom a remarkable spirit of amity prevailed, and bickerings and jealousies were unknown. He was warmly interested in the cause of temperance, and was a member of the first temperance society ever organ-



THOMAS ORENDORFF. MRS. NANCY JANE ORENDORFF.
MRS. MARY M. ORENDORFF. JOHN B. ORENDORFF.

ized in the county, a branch of the well-known American Temperance Union Society, organized in 1826, the pledge being to abstain from the use of distilled spirits, except when prescribed for medicine, but not forbidding the use of cider, wine or malt liquors.* Although the principle of total abstinence was not yet promulgated, Captain Stringfield himself rigidly abstained from the use of strong drink, an example rather remarkable in view of the usual habits of the community.

The esteem in which he was held among his neighbors is shown by his election for three terms as justice of the peace, succeeding Hon. John Moore, who was the first justice of the township. Upon the adoption of township organization he was elected the first supervisor from Randolph township, and took an active part in the proceedings of the county board at its first session when many practical questions of detail under the new system, came up for consideration and settlement.

As usual he was a leading spirit in the board, and the satisfaction he gave his constituents is shown by the fact that he was re-elected again and again, serving five terms with credit to himself and advantage to the public.

In his boyhood days he had heard much of General Jackson, his father and brother having served under him, and upon one notable occasion the old hero had taken dinner at his father's house in passing through the country upon one of his numerous expeditions. The strong personality of Jackson rendered every one who knew him either his bitter enemy or his enthusiastic partisan. There was no half-way place, and young Stringfield at once arrayed himself with Jackson's friends, and continued to his dying day to be

*The society to which he belonged was organized in 1832 in Bloomington by Mr. A. C. Washburn, against a strong opposition among some of the best citizens. Captain Stringfield, returning from Danville, perhaps in 1833, met Mr. Washburn in Leroy, and after a short conversation with him became so convinced of the importance of the matter, that at his instance Washburn drew up a pledge upon the spot, which he signed at once. Upon his return home and announcing what he had done he was jeered at by some of his friends, who told him that his name would now be sent back east as that of a reformed drunkard.

He had the satisfaction, a few years afterward, to see the same persons sign a much more stringent pledge and the matter is only mentioned here to show how utterly new the subject was to the community at that time.

a devoted adherent of the democratic party, whose principles and candidates he upheld upon all occasions with a singleness of purpose that never relaxed.

At no period of his life did he appear to better advantage than at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion. By birth, by tradition, by sentiment, by association, he belonged to the party that had so long controlled the country and which now seemed, by a large majority, to be determined to destroy the government it could no longer control.

A life long democrat seeing so many of those whom he had always followed with implicit confidence, plunging headlong into secession, with others half-hearted, uncertain and wavering, he might well be excused if, for a little time in this universal turmoil, distraction and utter novelty of situation, he had displayed some doubt or uncertainty as to his position. In this trying situation Captain Stringfield's sturdy patriotism, sterling common sense and positive character stood him in good stead. Without a moment's hesitation, he announced himself a union man and in favor of the most vigorous prosecution of the war made necessary for its preservation by the action of many of his former leaders, and so continued to the end, an active, outspoken and ardent supporter of the government, foremost in encouraging enlistment, prominent in sanitary work, and in his place upon the board of supervisors in 1863, one of the most active champions of the policy of offering large bounties and so avoiding the necessity of a draft to fill up the quota of soldiers from the county. His action had a salutary effect upon many democrats of his vicinity less certain of their duty or less ardent in their patriotism. It is well known, though not at present much discussed, that there was a large minority of the democratic party in the state who sympathized with the south, and only waited a suitable opportunity to show that sympathy by embarrassing the government, by discouraging enlistments, and by the formation, more or less openly, of societies or secret associations, ready for organized resistance to necessary measures if opportunity offered.

A camp of the "Knights of the Golden Circle" was organized in his township, and he and his relatives were frequently importuned to become members, but his stubborn resolution to support the flag never wavered, and his example was followed by a large

number of his democratic friends, who might otherwise have been led into actions of a more or less treasonable character. His favorite expression at that time was "if my house takes fire I don't stand around and speculate as to how it happened, or accuse Tom, Dick or Harry of setting fire to it. I just go to work with all my might *to put out the fire.* It will be time enough to discuss those matters when the house is safe."

The pertinence and force of the illustration convinced, or at least, silenced many who would not have been amenable to more finished rhetoric or less forcible illustration.

On March 25, 1882, occurred his "golden wedding," a festival attended by a multitude of his old friends and neighbors, including a large number from Bloomington and other cities, who gathered to congratulate him upon the auspicious occasion, and testify their appreciation of his character and services.

The writer was appointed to prepare an address to accompany the present of his children and neighbors, which consisted of $170 in gold, contained in a handsome purse suitably inscribed. This address was ordered published by a unanimous vote of those present, and no apology is offered for reproducing it here, as it suitably expresses the feelings of his old neighbors to himself and his amiable wife, and was a subject of much pleasurable comment on their part upon many subsequent occasions.

"Esquire and Mrs. Stringfield:—Your old neighbors and friends, and especially those who were your neighbors and friends fifty years ago, have put upon me the pleasing duty of expressing to you their congratulations upon this happy occasion, and their good wishes for the future.

The persons whom I represent, many of them, shared with you the hardships and privations, and also the joys and triumphs of pioneer life, and they greet you today with pride in the past and hope for the years to come.

During the fifty years you have lived with us we have always found you both, as neighbors, citizens, friends and Christians, worthy to stand, as you do stand, in the front rank of the old settlers of McLean county.

There are some things which I hesitate to say in your presence, and yet, upon an occasion like this, they ought to be said, and perhaps I may be permitted to say to the friends around me what your

modesty might not allow me to say to you, and so I address myself to them for a moment instead of yourselves.

These doors, which are flung so widely open to us today, have always stood open to God's poor, to the friendless, the widow and the orphan. No neighbor ever called in vain upon this worthy couple for neighborly service. No worthy applicant for charity, whether public or private, ever was turned empty away. But especially the poor, the destitute, the sick and the afflicted have always found the doors, the purse and the hearts of these good people open to shelter, to relieve, to encourage and console.

If any couple can be said to have clothed and fed the Savior himself, it has been this old couple, for they have fed and clothed His poor, and we have His word for it that He will count it as having been done to Himself.

Turning again to the aged pair, the speaker continued: "Moved by these considerations, your neighbors and friends have deemed this a suitable occasion to present to you this token of their respect and affection, which they know you will receive in the same spirit of hearty good will with which it is offered. And at the same time I present with it what I know will be still more highly prized by you—the cordial assurance of their good will, and although, as you have now reached 'the golden milestone' on life's journey, we cannot, in the nature of things, wish you many happy returns of this day, we do fervently pray that your future lives may be as peaceful and happy as your past lives have been honorable and loveable."

Captain Stringfield, who was greatly affected, replied:

"My old friends and neighbors: Nearly every day of late years I have asked myself this question, 'Have I done any good in the world?' That is a question you must answer for me; at least I have tried. We have both tried to be straightforward and neighborly, and we are proud to be able to say that those who were our friends fifty years ago, what there is left of them, are our friends today. We thank you very heartily for this substantial token of your good will, but we thank you very much more for your presence and for your friendly words. We consented that our children should get up this celebration, not to get presents, but to bring our old friends together once more, to look once more upon your faces, and clasp your friendly hands and to recall to our memories the

events that led to our acquaintance. We bid you warmly welcome, not only to our home but to our hearts as well."

This occasion was always referred to by the old couple as one of the most pleasant incidents of their lives.

In September, 1885, his aged partner, who had been in feeble health for some years, yielded to the infirmities of age, and departed this life, leaving behind her as the best legacy for her children the record of a long life spent in doing good.

Her husband survived for ten years more, with vitality only slightly impaired, and retaining his interest in passing events to a remarkable degree. But his work was done, and, on a mild autumn day, with the yellow leaves drifting down upon the old homestead where he had lived for over sixty years, this good man laid down the burden of his life, and was laid away by his sorrowing friends within a few hundred feet of where he had built his first log cabin seventy-two years before.

His death took place, after a brief illness, September, 1895, at the ripe age of eighty-six years.

In contemplating the life of Captain Stringfield, and reflecting upon his character, we are struck especially by his vitality, his aggressiveness, his self-reliance, integrity and piety. He was, physically and mentally, a thoroughly "live" man, full of warm blood, active, vigorous and aggressive, with a body insensible to fatigue and a mind open upon every side to new impressions, which were recorded upon a memory more than usually tenacious. He was in person slightly below the average height, but well proportioned, with light hair and blue eyes. His voice was pitched upon a high key and was shrill and penetrating when excited.

All his life he prided himself upon his physical ability and was always ready to take part in any feats of strength or activity, such as formed the chief diversions of the public gatherings of his day. He had a correct eye, a steady hand, and what was called "a knack" of handling tools, which made him able to do almost any job of carpentering or mending, a faculty fully developed by his life on the frontier, where every one was, substantially, his own carpenter, blacksmith, wheel wright and shoemaker.

He was a man whose opinions upon all subjects were so positive that he had the reputation of an aggressive man, but this was hardly deserved in any offensive sense, for he rarely intruded his

views upon others except when they were disputed, when he defended them with great vigor and a bull dog tenacity, and with a fertility of resource and a command of illustration which rendered him a formidable antagonist.

He was, above all things, a self-reliant man. His apprehension was so quick, and his convictions so positive, that his mind was made up in an instant upon any subject, and once made up, it was almost impossible to change it. He was, as Emerson says, "a man who always knew what to do next." He never asked advice, and rarely took it when offered. Indeed, it is impossible for me to imagine Captain Stringfield going to a neighbor for advice upon any subject. He trusted implicitly to his own judgment and the convictions of his youth were only deepened and intensified in his old age.

Another salient point in his character was his personal integrity. It is said that there are some people who do not know how to be dishonest. Captain Stringfield was that sort of a man. He was honest with himself, honest with his neighbors, honest with his God. And this steadfast integrity was not based upon any low consideration of expediency, as is often the case with those who are honest simply because they consider "honesty the best policy."

His was the native, ingrained honesty, in his blood and his bones, and as much a part of his life as the air he breathed or the blood that coursed through his veins.

His character was completed and permeated by a piety as unaffected as it was sincere. A life member of the Methodist church, he had a child-like implicit faith in his church, as he did in his Bible and his God. In his eyes the Democratic party and the Methodist church were just right, but he was as far beyond being a mere partisan of the one as of the other. His religion was a personal, individual affair, and like his integrity it permeated all his nature, softening his asperities, moderating his aggressive qualities and mellowing his rugged nature with the graces and charities of a genuine piety. His charity was as wide as the all-embracing ocean, and his integrity as firm founded as the everlasting rocks against which that ocean dashes its waves in vain.

Open hearted, hospitable, generous and charitable, he took all mankind for his neighbor while he lived, and died in peace with all mankind and implicit faith in his God.

Early Camp Meetings.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of McLean county: We have met here today in memory of the first white emigrants to Randolph Grove, this being the seventy-fifth anniversary of that memorable event. In the spring of 1823, seventy-five years ago Gardner Randolph, with a small family, and Alfred and Sevier Stringfield, unmarried brothers, and also brothers-in-law to Gardner Randolph, Mrs. Randolph being a sister of Alfred and Sevier Stringfield, built their first camp fire close to this place.

The Randolphs and Stringfields first came from Sangamon county to Blooming Grove, where they stopped for a few days until they looked up a suitable location. They found one, the most congenial to their taste, on the north side of this grove, then unnamed by the white people. Where we celebrate today is part of the claim taken by the Stringfields. Just west of this Randolph took his claim, where he remained until the California gold discovery. He then sold his farm to Jonathan Howser, and moved to California, where, after a few years' residence, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph died.

Mr. A. J. Wilson, of Dale township, told me he visited their graves in California. He said they were placed side by side, with an appropriate tombstone to mark their resting place in a nicely kept cemetery, his stone containing the inscription "Gardner Randolph of Illinois." This should be a consolation to all assembled here today to learn that while death came to them in a distant land, they were not forgotten after death.

Mrs. Randolph has the honor of being the first white woman to settle in this Grove, and the only woman resident here until the spring of 1824, one year. Her only female associates nearer than the Sangamon river were at Blooming Grove: Jane Hendryx, wife of John Hendryx; Ann Dawson, wife of John Dawson; Lovina Orendorff, wife of William Orendorff; Mary Rhodes, wife of Captain John Rhodes; Sally Benson, wife of John Benson.

The first two families alluded to settled in Blooming Grove in the spring of 1822. The other three in the spring of 1823. The Blooming Grove women all died and were buried in that grove except Ann Dawson. She and her husband moved to Iowa, and both died and were buried in that state.

This grove and township took the name Randolph in honor of Gardner Randolph, the first married white man to settle in this grove with his family. Fellow citizens, this beautiful grove is associated with many important events, the history of which should be collected and preserved for the benefit of unborn posterity. Here the first white man's ax felled the first trees to build the first cabin ever erected in this grove by white men, so far as known. In the early spring of 1824, the Widow Stringfield, with her grown daughters, settled here on a claim her sons Alfred and Sevier had taken for her at the same time they had taken their own claims, in the spring of 1823.

I will here relate a historical event of what occurred at the cabin of Mrs. Stringfield after she had settled at this point. In the following June, 1824, her daughter Temperance was married to John Taylor. They were the first couple of white people to get married in what is now McLean county. At that time the laws of Illinois did not require people that wished to be joined in wedlock to go to the county seat to procure a license. All the law required then was to give public notice of place, and date of intended wedding. The usual custom was to post three written notices on trees in the most public places of the neighborhood. Then, after a reasonable time after such marriage, a notice of such marriage had to be sent to the county seat to be recorded. This couple stuck up the required notices, and on the appointed time they were married, and that marriage was recorded at Vandalia, the county seat of Fayette, more than a hundred miles south of here. This was then a part of Fayette county.

Thomas Orendorff was invited to attend the wedding of Temperance Stringfield and John Taylor. He there publicly announced that he and Malinda Walker were going to be married on the fourth of the coming October, 1824, at Blooming Grove. On his way home from the wedding he posted up notices of the coming event. They were married at the appointed time by the Rev. Ebenezer Rhodes. This marriage was also recorded at Vandalia, Fayette county.

They were the first couple to get married in Blooming Grove, and were my father and mother.

Everything in nature was so inviting to this grove that emigration did not stop with those that came here in 1823 and the spring of 1824.

In the fall of 1824 Thomas Rutledge and wife and Robert Rutledge, then a single man, settled on their claims on the south side of the timber. Later on in December Jesse Funk took his claim on the south side of the grove, east of Heyworth. He came here a single man; but in 1825 married a daughter of the Widow Stringfield, a sister of Alfred and Sevier Stringfield, and also a sister to Temperance Taylor, the first white girl that was married in this grove, or what is now McLean county.

I will now change my sketch of the first settlers of Randolph Grove to a few thoughts of my early recollections of the early camp meetings of this grove and McLean county. I shall have to confine my remarks principally to my memory, as so far in searching the records I find but little evidence to show that such meetings were ever in existence.

For some cause unknown to myself, the historian of this early date has failed to collect and record such events. These meetings were some of the most important events of these early times. They did much good in civilizing and Christianizing the people, and were a powerful influence toward good government, and should not be lost and forgotten by those who follow us. The camp meetings of an early date should never be forgotten as long as the people and time lasts. In memory of those noble people that nurtured those early camp meetings, all their history should be collected and preserved.

In the early settling of this country it was thinly settled for eighteen or twenty years,—there were then but few attractions to bring the people together. The people were most all acquainted with each other. Until after the "deep snow" there were no church buildings, no court houses, no halls,—but few school houses, and they were but small log cabins, too small to hold much of an audience. The preaching for a number of years was held at private log cabins. There were several preachers and exhorters scattered through the country, and at that time they were about the only

public speakers. They were generally well versed in the Bible, nearly all laboring men and most all farmers.

Up to 1836 we had no printing presses, no railroads, no telegraph or telephone as now. The early pioneers of this country were a brave, energetic, progressive class of people, of a social, moral and religious nature. They conceived the idea of holding camp meetings so as to give all a chance to meet at least once a year to renew old acquaintances, and to know thy neighbor as thyself in all ways, remembering what they considered their sacred duty to serve their God.

The time of holding camp meeting was after harvest in August and September, usually the last half of August and through September. The people looked ahead to the camp meeting of an early date with interest and pride. They considered such meetings of vast importance socially as well as religiously, to the sparsely scattered settlers that were so isolated from each other. Everybody, far and near, wanted to go to camp meeting when the time came to go. Most generally all went that were well enough to go, except those that had to stay at home to do the chores, and those that had the chills and fever that was very prevalent those times. I have seen large families all in bed at the same time with the chills and fever and sometimes some of the family was shaking with the ague, that caused every joint of the old-fashioned bedstead to shake as though it would fall to pieces. I have seen people shake that hard while at camp meeting. A very small proportion of the people that are now living has ever seen anything of the kind, and I trust the human family never will have to face the like again.

The camp meeting generally held two weeks, the usual time set to hold them, but sometimes they lasted longer. Continuation after two weeks all depended on the interest manifested at the meeting. I have known them extended two, three, four, five and six weeks.

The early camp meeting did much good socially, morally, politically and religiously. Its influences softened down the rough edges of vanity and wickedness, they toned the spirit to "love thy neighbor as thyself;" by its influence many a wayward soul has been brought into the folds of the church; its teachings with all its

good influences have made us a great and mighty people; its memory we all should revere and cherish.

All the families that lived a long distance from the camp meetings, that wished to attend and camp, took provisions and horse feed to last them while in camp. They always went in a covered wagon. To the first meetings held, some drove horses while others used oxen. If they took oxen they would let them graze on the wild grass during the meeting. If all the family wished to go to the meeting, and they had no one to see after the things at home, they would turn the stock all out on the grass, even let the calves out with the cows, until the family returned.

Then we had no locks on our cabin doors; had no need for locks as there were no house-breakers then. When the family returned they found nothing had been taken,—not even the much abused Indian had molested anything. Quite often young men would come fifty and sixty miles on horseback to stay as long as the meeting was held. They turned their horses out in some pasture close by, where they stayed until the meeting closed. The young men themselves were entertained by some of the campers,—that was all free, all were made welcome at those meetings who had no camping outfit.

To show the liberality of the people of those times, I will allude to one case. As late as 1845, while a camp meeting was being held at the Spring school house on the Kickapoo, half a mile west of Downs station, Zachariah Blue publicly announced that he had forty acres of pasture that all young men that were attending the meeting were welcome to, as long as they remained. Some twenty or twenty-five young men came forward and said they would accept the kind offer. He said: "Boys, I will send a boy to show you the pasture that is half a mile away. This winter I will enclose twenty acres more so as to accommodate all that attend our meeting." A few that came in wagons used his pasture. He built the fence, as he stated he would, and it was largely patronized as long as the camp meeting of that place was held, I think until 1852 or 1853.

The first camp meetings of McLean county were of a backwoods style. After the place was selected for encampment, they then arranged seats by chopping down tall, slim trees to make long logs that they placed in rows six or eight feet apart. The seats

were made by splitting puncheons eight or ten feet long, then placing them across the logs so the audience would face the speaker. The logs were so heavy they were usually hauled in by hitching three or four yoke of oxen to a lizard. The place selected for meeting was always in a nice, shady grove, and usually close to a good spring of water. The preachers' platform was made of round logs, floored with puncheons. The platform was called a pulpit. Between the pulpit and audience was an open space sixteen or eighteen feet square that was enclosed by pinning shaved poles to trees and posts, except a small passway from the audience to the pulpit. This enclosure was called the altar, to which the preacher descended after preaching a sermon. He then called for mourners, as they were then called. After exhorting his hearers a short time to flee from the wrath to come, he called on all church members to come to the altar to help sing and pray. While singing and praying, at intervals the preacher would appeal again and again to all to come to the anxious seat that was so inviting to the wayward.

Temporary movable benches were placed inside of the altar so that they could be moved at time of shouting. All those inside of the altar would get on their knees at time of prayer. Then all would rise to their feet and all sing, that could sing. The singing was not confined to the altar, as the audience joined in the chorus, too, several hundred voices singing as loud as they could sing. All seemed to be trying to see who could sing the loudest. Such melodious singing of those old familiar hymns caused the groves to ring with praise of Him that made all things. The echo, in my vain fancy, I now hear its gentle tones ringing in my ears. The sensation that followed was very effective, as in a very short time the audience was in a general commotion.

While the singing was going on, there was a gradual advance to the altar of those that were seeking religion. Such times and scenes made a lasting impression never to be erased from memory while life lasts. The audience was melted to tears, while in the altar they were crying, singing, praying and shouting,—all going on at the same time. I have witnessed as many as twenty to twenty-five all shouting at once.

Occasionally this exercise was kept up until three or four o'clock next morning. They would keep singing and praying until

they became exhausted. A few while shouting, would fall to the earth as though they were struck by death. In some cases they remained in that condition for hours. They seemed to be in a trance. For hours they lay as dead, unconscious to all surroundings, not a muscle seemed to move until they began to come to; then they would gradually revive, similar to recovering from a spasm or fit.

At one of those meetings I saw a young couple of lovers go in the altar as seekers of religion; after kneeling in prayer quite a time, they sprang to their feet and commenced to shout. After shouting a while, they came together. While clasped in each others arms some time, they said, with shouts, as they were shouting all the time, they were going to heaven, and were going together now. They took hold of a small oak sapling and attempted to climb it, but it was too slender to stand their weight. After a few attempts they gave it up, but still kept on shouting at least two hours, until they became too exhausted to shout any longer. They soon after married and became our most respected citizens. They are now dead. I never doubted their religious sincerity, as they ever after lived devoted lives.

I will again allude to a time of loud singing. In 1845 the Presbyterians were holding a camp meeting at the Spring school house, half a mile west of Downs Station, in Old Town timber. It was four miles from there to our house, but on calm evenings we could very distinctly hear them sing; we could distinguish the voice of Ruben Clearwaters above all the rest, he had the strongest voice I ever heard. It was very delightful to listen to the singing so far away.

From 1829 to 1850 is the time I was invited to give my early recollections of early camp meetings. Of that period I can now call to memory nine camp meetings that were held in different parts of McLean county. Eight of the nine I had the pleasure of attending, a portion of the time, while they were in session. Of that number, Randolph Grove had four, Blooming Grove one, Old Town one, Buckles' Grove, one, Cheney's Grove one, Stout's Grove one. I did not attend the one at Stouts' Grove, it being held in the last half of the forties.

The first camp meeting ever held in McLean county was conducted by the Methodists in Blooming Grove, in 1829, south of

where the first log cabin of the county was built. The south half of the Orendorff cemetery was part of that camp ground. At the northeast corner of the cemetery, at the foot of the bank, was a fine spring of water, now filled up with earth. The people got water out of that spring while attending the meeting. The soldiers of the Black Hawk war, on their return home, camped at this camp ground; this spring furnished them water at that time. This was the most noted place of this county. Well do I remember the old gourd that was kept lying on the roots of that elm tree that is still standing there. The gourd was what people used to drink out of those times. That first meeting was run by James Latta, Peter Cartwright, William See and Stephen Beggs.

The first circuit preacher in McLean county was Rev. William See, in 1826, succeeded in 1827 by Rev. Smith Robinson, who was in 1828 succeeded by the Rev. James Latta, who was in 1829 succeeded by Stephen Beggs. Sevier Stringfield and Thomas Toverry were local preachers at that time. This was then called the Salt Creek circuit. All the names alluded to belonged to the Methodist Church.

Then we had other preachers here at an early date of other denominations. I now call to memory Rev. Ebenezer Rhodes, of the New Light Church, he commenced preaching here in 1824. He organized the first church ever organized in the county, at his house in 1828, before the first camp meeting.

There were also Cumberland Presbyterian preachers, I think some of them preached here as early as 1824. They were Ebenezer Mitchell, Neal and Archie Johnson, two brothers, and Robert Taylor and John Berry that lived at New Salem, a neighbor to Peter Cartwright and Abraham Lincoln. The Rev. Berry preached at Blooming Grove at a very early date. He came here to preach as early as 1824. I knew them all well. John Berry was equal to Peter Cartwright,—I think the greater man of the two. He never got the notoriety that Cartwright had, as he never mingled in politics like Cartwright. Cartwright was a wonderful man. I admired his ability, and would never willingly see a laurel snatched from his memory. J. L. Orendorff, who is still living, the first white male child born in the county, told me a few days ago, that while they were arranging to hold camp meeting at Blooming

Grove in 1829, Peter Cartwright came to his father's to get a load of straw to put in the camps. He said Cartwright and his brother Oliver hitched up a yoke of oxen to a wagon and loaded on a load of straw and took it to the campgrounds. He went with them and saw them unload the straw in the camps and covered wagons to sleep on. He said after they unloaded, he and Oliver took the oxen and wagon back home, a mile away; they had a terrible time getting through the thick timber. He was then four years old and Oliver eight. Cartwright staid at the camp grounds. They built only four or five camp houses at this place, as they only held camp meeting there two years. The majority of the people slept in covered wagons.

The arrangement of seats, pulpit and altar I have already explained. I will now give a slight description of camps and cooking. The camps were built in a circle around the seats and altar. They were placed end to end like a train of cars, leaving space between each cabin so as to give pass way. Each cabin had a door to face the seats and speaker's stand. They usually had one door; occasionally two. They had no floors, no chimney, no fires inside. Then stoves were unknown here. The only window light was a greased paper which some used. There were no glass lights here then. The cabins were covered with clap-boards four feet long. They were split with a frow. The boards were usually eight to twelve inches wide. To make a roof, they were placed on poles, or ribs, as they were called. These ribs were three feet apart; the boards were placed side by side, then one over the joint. They were held down with a weight pole to hold them in place. The space between the logs in the wall was filled with split pieces of wood, and mixed mud. The building was constructed without nails or sawed lumber. If any party did any mechanical work that had to be fastened together, it was all done with wooden pegs. If nails had been invented then they had failed to find a home here.

The cooking was all done back of the camps by building a fire against a large log that held fire several days. The cooking utensils in use then were a tea kettle, coffee pot, frying pan, skillet. One or two ovens, wooden dish bowl and wooden bread tray; that was the housewife's outfit to prepare a meal. I never saw a cook stove until 1845 or 1846.

This description will apply to all the early camp meetings held here. Later on, as the people got more facilities, they made slight changes in camp life. As soon as saw mills were built they used sawed lumber for seats, pulpits and camps. A few had canvas tents. There was but little change made in cooking. If any of the campers had cook stoves they did not want to expose them to the outside elements. I don't think there was a cook stove in use in McLean county up to 1845.

In September, 1831, the first camp meeting of Randolph's Grove was held. The location was about a half mile southeast of where we celebrate today. It was on the east side of the timber, south of Esquire Thompson's, about forty or sixty rods from the Little Kickapoo. The preachers that conducted this meeting were the Rev. Dr. Crissey, then circuit rider of 1831; and perhaps Rev. Shepherd, who had charge of the circuit in 1830. James Latta and Peter Cartwright were also very active workers at this meeting. This was a camp meeting ground two or three years. It was then abandoned. A year or so afterwards they improved another camp ground on the Captain Stringfield farm in the timber, twenty or thirty rods southwest of Stringfield's house. I think the first camp meeting there was held in the fall of 1834. For several years afterwards it was the camp meeting grounds of the Methodists. The last meeting held there was I think in 1861. Rev. Dr. Charles Crissey was still circuit rider here in 1832. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Royal in 1833.

He was succeeded by a young preacher whose name I don't remember. Rev. Dr. Hall was circuit preacher in 1835; Rev. Chace in 1836; Rev. Richard Haney two years, 1837 and 1838; the Rev. Mr. Shepherd, 1839, and I think Rev. Pitner in 1840. These are all the Methodist camp meetings I remember being held in the county at an early date.

I attended one that was held in the northeast end of Cheney's Grove in 1849. They were held there for several years. The Presbyterians held their first camp meetings on the east side of this grove on the George Hand farm in the edge of the timber, not far from the house, if my memory serves me right. They held their first camp meeting in the fall of 1834, where it was continued a few years. Then they held one at the Spring school house on the Kickapoo, half a mile west of Downs Station, in Old Town timber.

They commenced to hold meetings at this place in the early forties and continued to hold them until the early fifties.

The same years, but not at the same times, the Presbyterians were holding camp meetings at Buckle's Grove. The camp ground there was a mile and a half southeast of LeRoy, on the banks of Salt creek, close to a large spring. They also held camp meetings at Stout's Grove.

The United Brethren held a series of camp meetings during the forties. Their camp grounds were at the northeast corner of Randolph Grove on the Troop Richardson farm in a nice grove of walnut trees close to the church and cemetery, on the bank of the Kickapoo close to a nice sulphur spring.

The early forties was a remarkable period for camp meetings. Almost every neighborhood had its camp meeting. That seemed to be the case all over the state. Later on, they rapidly began to disappear owing to a bad element of people that were coming into the country; it finally got so that officers were kept on duty at night to guard against depredations of malicious scoundrels. No camp meeting of an early date had to be protected by law. Why, the savage Indians that are spoken of with such terrible horror, and looked upon by some as demons from hades, were never known to disturb people while at worship while at camp meeting. Quite a number of them were church members during the ten years they remained here with the whites, and took part with the white people at the camp meeting.

I will now close my remarks of early reminiscences and give the names of some of those of this grove that I knew and mingled with while attending the camp meetings held here. I will now call to memory the names of the Stringfields, the Randolphs, the Hands, the Rutledges, the Funks, the Vitatoes, the Stuarts, the Moores, the Bishops, the Hamptons, the Drapers, the Duffeys, the Baldings, the Taylors, the Nickersons, the Hedricks, the Frenches, the Martens, the Millers, the Litners, the Crosses, the Eckelses, the Richardsons, the Passwaters, the Nobles, the Burtses, the Kimlers, the Masons, the Jacoby's, the Toverries, Mr. Magee, the Rusts, the Mayberries, the Pittses, the Peasleys, the Wakefields, the Youngs, the Rolesons, the Thompsons, the Coverdales, the Wrights, the Downses, the Waldens, the Veaches, the Housers, and Mr. Buris, a school teacher.

Randolph's Grove, August 24, 1898. J. B. ORENDORFF.

FUNK'S GROVE PIONEERS.

The Early Days Recalled—Historical Society Celebrates a Seventy-Fifth Anniversary—Interesting Papers Read on Old-Time Topics.

The McLean County Historical Society has begun a systematic movement to collect historical data connected with the first settlements in the various townships. Last year an interesting and instructive meeting was held in Randolph, and yesterday the settlement of Funk's Grove was the topic considered at the meeting of the society held in the church in that historical forest. It is a neat structure, surrounded by the natural timber, except for a God's acre near its doors, where slumber the pioneer settlers and many of their kinfolk. It is a peaceful and lovely place for interment. The gathering yesterday, which numbered about 600 persons, was largely in the nature of a reunion of the Funk and Stubblefield families. A fine dinner was served under the trees, and a pleasant social hour was an accompaniment of its discussion. The day was cool and clear, but not too cool for enjoyment in the open air.

PIONEERS PRESENT.

There were many aged men and women present. The oldest was Sylvester Strong, of Atlanta, now in his 95th year, who has lived on the land he entered from the government sixty years ago to this day, and never had a mortgage on it. He knew Lincoln, and loved him. Mr. John Stubblefield, aged 79, and George M. Stubblefield, aged 74, were other old gentlemen present. Messrs. Adam Guthrie, Abram Brokaw, J. B. Orendorff and other early settlers were also in the audience.

THE HISTORICAL EXERCISES.

President George P. Davis called the assembly to order in the church at precisely 11 o'clock. Mr. Davis spoke briefly of the purposes and work of the society, and then introduced Hon. LaFayette Funk, who read a paper on "The Pioneer Settlers of Funk's Grove."

—*Bloomington Pantagraph,* September 22, 1890.

Pioneer Settlers of Funk's Grove.

ADDRESS BY HON. LAFAYETTE FUNK.

To write anything of a correct history of the early pioneer settlement of this neighborhood and of those who were the real participants in that memorable event, would require the pen and genius of one not a novice by any means in this line of work. No well authenticated record of any of the incidents taking place during this early period being at hand and all the older people of that time having passed away, makes it most difficult to put anything on paper for future reference which might seem commendable to the writer or satisfy the general public. The people of this western country, however, are beginning in a measure to realize the great importance of this work and are adapting themselves to the custom of organizing (and incidentally I may say very appropriately, too) state, county, and even local historical societies patterned after the manner and mode adopted by some of the more eastern states of writing, compiling, and condensing into history some of the more notable events occurring and taking place during the early pioneer settlement of the country. Where the present and future generations of people may learn and know of the many hardships and privations of the comforts of life (which most of you here to-day seem to enjoy), our ancestors had to undergo in getting to and for years after reaching their destination had passed before they were enabled to see and enjoy any of the realities and comforts of life in their rude and improvised homes so far isolated from kindred and friends and old associations and environments way back at the old homestead.

Many thanks, however, are now due from the citizens of McLean county to the few men and women who have taken up this most arduous task and formed themselves into what is known as the McLean County Historical Society and for the purpose of accomplishing this great and laudable work spoken of above, have in a measure inaugurated plans of holding annual meetings in the

different localities of the county in the order of which the settlement began.

And now, my friends and fellow-citizens of this neighborhood and the county at large, one and all, this grove being the third in the series of the county's settlement, we welcome you here with open hands and hearts filled with greetings, to participate and mingle with us under these magnificent trees of the forest on this, the 21st day of September, 1899, under the auspices of the McLean County Historical Society, represented by its principal officers, to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the settlement of this grove.

The committee of arrangements have chosen wisely when they selected this historical spot to hold these exercises. But a few rods from where we are now seated to the west, the first log school house was erected about the year 1827 or '28, and served its purpose well about twenty years, not only for school but for religious services, open to all denominations of a Christian character and belief.

Associations, too, of a more solemn character make this spot doubly appropriate for holding these exercises here. But a few rods from where the old school house stood in that little, quiet, beautiful cemetery, there now rest the remains of many of those people whose memory and exploits we are here to-day to talk about. Pioneering as known in the early days of this country has long ago ceased to be a thing of reality, and only a few from personal experience of the very oldest citizens can tell of the many depressing feelings of hardship and adventures our forefathers had to combat with before reaching their point of destination. No roads, no bridges and the streams too deep to ford had to be crossed by making an improvised raft, taking the wagons apart and ferrying them over by small parcels at a time. The teams then would have to be forced into the stream and made swim to the farther shore, when all would be "hurly burly" to put things to rights and start on again till the next obstruction would stare them in the face when the same "modus operandi" would have to be gone through with again.

How different it is now with the man who wants to find a new country. The railroads long ago propelled their lines clear beyond the border of civilization and become the pioneer of the country, making it possible for the emigrant to load his goods and effects on

the cars and in a few days be at his destination, sheltered all the way in the cars from the inclemency of the weather. And often the material for the first house was taken right along on the train and in a very few days the house could be erected with ample protection for the family.

Among the first pioneer settlers of this grove which we are here to-day to celebrate and in a feeble way do honor to their memory, began on or about the 14th of May, 1824, a little over seventy-five years ago—a little longer time than that alloted to the life of man.

What a marvelous change in appearance and in the physical condition of the country to-day! Then what might be termed a howling wilderness inhabited by a meager few white people at some of the groves, is now teeming with a most abundant supply of agricultural products of all dimensions, furnishing food and raiment for the millions.

All within this space of time has been transformed into a comparatively densely populated civilized class of people, who have brought the improvements of the country up to a standard of excellence which will probably bear comparison with almost any section of the country.

Farms have been brought under the best and most improved modes of management, producing every year large yields of grain and grasses, largely enriching the husbandman for his labor. Churches have been established and school houses erected until the moral and educational facilities of the country are most excellent.

The first settlers of this grove comprised nine persons all told. Mr. and Mrs. William Brock and five children and two young men unmarried, Absalom and Isaac Funk, all of whom were endowed with that quality characteristic of most pioneer men and women of that time in the history of our county, push, energy and brawn of muscle that knew no failure and hesitated not at the most enduring hardships undertaken. Mr. Brock had come to Illinois the year previous from Ohio and stopped in Sangamon county. Not content with the surroundings of that locality, he explored the seemingly endless extent of country farther north, hoping to find something more suitable to his purposes.

The two young men alluded to above left Fayette county, Ohio, in the fall of 1823 for the west, seeking a locality suitable for

carrying on the live stock business in all its different phases, combined in agricultural pursuits in a general way.

I have been creditably informed by Mr. Frank Riddle, now a prominent attorney of Chicago, that Absalom and Isaac Funk wintered part of the winter of 1823 and '24 at his grandfather's, George Riddle, fifteen miles east of Springfield, where the town of Mechanicsburg is now located.

Mr. Brock had come from near the boys' Ohio home and was rejoiced at meeting them out in this new country and renewing old-time acquaintances. Mr. Brock had explored this part of the country the summer previous and was so well pleased with it, especially that part up at the point of Old Town timber, that he gave the young men glowing descriptions of this coveted Eldorado and it was but an easy task to persuade them to proceed on their way and investigate the new discoveries he had made. So all issues were joined in one common cooperation. The onerous march began and every point of a seemingly interesting character was closely scrutinized on their way up and especially the timber of this grove and all its surroundings, they having camped over night at the southeast part of the grove.

This bright, clear, sparkling rivulet of water fed by its many never failing springs of cold water that since has quenched the thirst of many a weary traveler, was a pleasing sight and a great feature in determining the views of the young men as future events developed.

It is useless to say that the young men right then and there wanted to stop and cast their lot here for better or worse. But Mr. Brock would not yield and insisted that his views of the upper Old Town were correct and the place would be the goal of their expectation. Finally, yielding to Mr. Brock's over-persuasion, they consented to go and all proceeded on their way.

After arriving at the Old Town country and viewing the prairies and country in general, the young men were not willing to abide by the judgment of Mr. Brock's first choice. Mr. Brock admitted he had overestimated the country from what his first observation and judgment had dictated, and like the young men was very enthusiastic over the observations and surroundings of this grove.

The young men made up their minds to return at once to the grove which they had so much admired on their way up, and after some argument and a little persuasion which did not have to be urged in very strong terms, Mr. Brock and family returned with them to the ideal spot of their admiration, which the passing of time has proven they were not mistaken.

On their way back, however, the location where Bloomington is now built up was viewed, this being seven or eight years before the town was started or even thought of, but nothing there even invited their serious consideration, so they hastened on to the place where their impressions were so firmly stamped of its future possibilities, of which time has so phenomenally developed.

And now this brings us up to the date above stated, May 14, 1824, when the first settlement of white people was established by staking out and filing claims, as the lands were not put on the market for entry for several years afterwards.

Mr. Brock built his cabin in the northeast corner of section 30, just about one mile and a half south of this place, and the Funk brothers built their cabin near the middle of section 16, about the same distance east, or about one and a half miles east of where we are now assembled.

Mr. Brock only lived a few years after settling here. He had started to Ohio with a drove of cattle, reaching the place of Mr. Dawson in Old Town timber, took sick and died there.

Mr. Brock was a man of more than ordinary push, pluck and energy. Within five years of his landing in a country entirely destitute of any settlement, he had by going to the southern part of the state, where the earlier settlers had been raising some cattle and established a business of traffic in this commodity of trade, gathered a sufficient number of cattle to drive to his new home, which was surrounded by Indians outnumbering the whites by hundreds. It took more than ordinary courage to take the risk of having these cattle stampeded by the Indians when on their tour of hunting with their dogs, which might result in many of them traveling many miles toward their old home before the rounding up could be accomplished, even though some of them might be by the Indians appropriated to their own use as provender.

There being no market for large droves of cattle in this country at that time, it became necessary to prepare them for the eastern

market—to be driven to Ohio, and if no sale could be effected there, then be put on the road and driven over the mountains to Lancaster and Chester counties, Pennsylvania, sold in small lots to feeders, who would prepare them for the Baltimore and Philadelphia markets.

To one who is acquainted with this manner of business it will readily be seen what vast amount of will power it took to undertake such a task, where the accomplishment of the object sought required so many hardships of exposure and labor of both body and mind in accomplishing this one transaction of business, which took months of time and hundreds of miles of travel exposed to all kinds of weather and subjected to all the inconveniences attributable to all newly settled countries.

The next addition of white people to the grove was that of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stubblefield and family consisting of five children, accompanied by Adam Funk, the father of Mrs. Stubblefield, and Absalom and Isaac Funk; also in this party of new comers were Jesse and Robert Funk, the two younger brothers of Absalom and Isaac. These new comers arrived here in the month of December, 1824, and it is useless to say their coming was hailed with many greetings of joy and pleasure by Mr. Brock and family and the two young men. Mr. Robert Stubblefield began his improvement by erecting a cabin near the middle of section 18, one-half mile west of here, where he continued to reside until his decease, in June, 1871.

Jesse and Robert Funk continued to live with and work for their brothers, Absalom and Isaac, for a few years, when they were married to two sisters by the name of Stringfield, Jesse moving to Randolph Grove, Robert making his improvement on the north side of the grove in section 8, where he continued to live to a ripe old age, when he conceived the idea this country was too tame for him, and he became infatuated with the Horace Greeley idea of "go west," and go he did, where he only lived a few years to enjoy the fruits of an imagined manhood of early life among the savages not of the forest but of the desert plains of far western Kansas.

About the next family in order of emigration to the grove was that of Andrew Biggs, who emigrated from Fayette county, Ohio. The exact date of Mr. Biggs' coming to the grove is not at hand,

but from data of connecting circumstances it must have been early in the year of 1826. Mr. Biggs settled at the southwest point of the grove in section 30.

The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Biggs and four or five children, some of the older ones, who were married, coming later on. Mr. Biggs seemed to have had the advantage of most of his fellow pioneers by having acquired some of the primary rudiments of education, as he had been employed to teach some of the early schools of the grove. During the winter of the deep snow he was compelled to move his family to the school house and live there for some time on account of the roads being blockaded and the long distance to go of over three miles. None of this family are at this time living in this neighborhood, some of the descendants, however, are living in other parts of the county.

Mr. Robert Guthrie lived for a short time on the north side of the grove on the south side of section 8, where the Chicago & Alton railway leaves the timber line. Mr. Guthrie being somewhat of a mechanic and genius in woodcraft, and an expert in the erection of log cabins, was the architect and boss workman in the erection of the first educational building in this section of the county—the old log school house—which descriptive phase sounds so natural to those of us who received our first rudiments of education within its walls.

Mr. Guthrie had come to the grove in the fall of 1826, but remained on his claim only a few years, having from force of circumstances to sell out his claim and remove to another near-by neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie were the parents of a small family of children, one of whom is the proprietor of "Adam's Ark" in Bloomington, a place where the facts of almost any event taking place before the deep snow or sudden change can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

Lemuel Evans came to the grove from Fayette county, Ohio, about the time of Mr. Biggs, and settled at the extreme west side of the timber, and actually cleared up a little farm in the timber, not believing the prairie soil could be made to produce any of the cereals. In 1832, he moved to Money Creek township, where he acquired a large property, and where he died May 7, 1860, respected by all that knew him. He adopted the surname of his stepfather, Andrew Biggs, and was known as Lemuel Biggs.

None of this family remain here. Some of them live near Lincoln, Logan county.

John Funk, an older brother of Absalom and Isaac, came from Fayette county, Ohio, during the year 1826 and settled on the north side of the grove in section 17, with quite a family of children, and having died shortly after coming here, the family have scattered to different parts of the county, leaving but few in this neighborhood.

Runnion Hougham came to the grove about the year 1831 from Highland county, Ohio, with quite a family of children, some of the older ones settling near White Oak Grove. Mr. Hougham began his improvements on the claim of Mr. Guthrie in section 9. Mr. Hougham only lived about two years after coming to the grove, leaving a widow and family of small children, who succeeded very well and lived with the mother till her death. Perhaps Lamon was the more successful business one, who died March 19, 1885, leaving two sons, James A. and Emory, possessed of good farms and well stocked with all species of agricultural industries. Their widowed mother in her old age makes her home with the two sons, and was a native of Indiana, coming to this state with her parents in 1851.

Another pioneer settler, the exact date of his arrival I cannot give, was Samuel Murphy, who settled at a small grove about one mile northwest of this grove, which was known and designated as Murphy or the Mile Grove in early days. Mr. Murphy improved his farm and lived there for a number of years, when he sold out to Isaac Funk and removed to the state of Missouri. Mrs. George M. Stubblefield, a daughter, living with her husband about a mile northwest of her father's old homestead, and two brothers near Stanford, are the only survivors of the old pioneer now living in this section of the country.

About the year 1825 or 1826, Adam Funk and Robert Stubblefield and a few others formed a small society of the Methodist church, which has been kept up all these number of years, and church services of some kind being regularly held in the homes of families, the school house and this building since its erection.

After a few years of his residence here, Adam Funk began to consider a proper place for a burying ground, where the last sad rites and affection could be given to the memory of departed kindred and friends. This piece of ground out here was selected and

a few years ago measures were provided for and the lot has been incorporated under the state cemetery laws, and is controlled and governed by a board of trustees, and we trust will be carefully looked after for all time to come. It was a singular coincidence, but Adam Funk was the second person to be laid away in the burying ground he had selected, the date being February 2, 1832, Eliza Funk, a granddaughter, being buried sometime previous.

This list comprises the more prominent of those who might be classed strictly as pioneers.

There are only two now living that I know of who were here in the grove in 1824, and they are John and George Stubblefield, and Adam Guthrie, who came in the fall of 1826, living now in Bloomington.

Much more might be said of these brave early advancing frontiermen who were willing as they approached to that stage in life of man and womanhood to sacrifice home affections and surrounding associations of comfort and plenty to leave all and face the perils and vigorous adventures into an unknown and uncivilized country, infested in many instances with Indians whose love and friendship for the white man was not altogether safe to be relied upon. Also that scourge which seems to be incident to all newly settled countries—fever and ague allied to a malarious type.

Mr. Funk also spoke of the early schools of Funk's Grove. This part of his remarks has been transferred to village school article.

Prof. Isaac N. Wright then read the following paper:

The Stubblefields.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

No name in Illinois is more widely known, or more closely identified with the settlement and progress of this great state, than the subjects of this sketch. A considerable part of McLean county is owned by, and has been brought to its present state of improvement and high value, by the earnest toil and progressive spirit of this numerous family. The present generation can look back with pride to a long line of ancestors, the first of German and English extraction, who have done valiant service for this country, both in times of war and peace. The Stubblefield family intermarried with the Funks, bringing together two of the largest and most prominent families in this part of the state. The youngest generation can trace their ancestors back to the Revolutionary period, and on into England and Germany.

That person who is well born, and who can look back on a long line of ancestry who acquitted themselves nobly and well, in their respective positions in life, has reason for self-congratulation. This family of Stubblefields of whom I speak today, are fortunate in a marked degree in this respect. From the present generation back to those who lived and wrought when our country was in its infancy, they as a family have stood for patriotism and piety.

They could have been found among the struggling colonists, fighting zealously for freedom. Again, when our country was in peril from a foreign foe in 1812, their forefathers were at the front, some as brilliant and daring officers, and some as sturdy privates, each doing his duty as became a patriot.

When our beloved country was drenched in blood from 1861 to 1865, that a great principle which is now universally acknowledged, might be upheld, they were again at the front.

When volunteers were called for to rescue unhappy Cuba from the oppression of Spanish tyrants, they answered their country's call. Several are now in Cuba, and one was sent back

from Manila broken in health, a sacrifice that was freely made at the altar of patriotism.

Though so prompt to answer to their country's call, they were and are by birth and disposition, a peaceful people, and many of them have been known to suffer an injustice rather than to enter into a dispute or legal contention. In the early settlement of this state when church privileges did not exist, or at best were few, the rugged piety of the Stubblefields was a potent factor in fostering a Christian spirit in the sparsely settled country.

Their upright life, their kindly admonition to the erring, their liberality and hospitality to those who preached the Word of God from house to house before a church had ever been erected, are known, and the memory cherished by the younger generation. The history of some of the events in the life of the older Stubblefields will be of interest to those now living, and to their friends. From John and George M. Stubblefield, now 80 and 77 years of age respectively, many of the following facts were gleaned:

We find in England a man by the name of John Stubblefield, who is the first man we can find any trace of by this name. We have the record that three sons of this man, Edward, William and John, came to America and settled in Virginia. Robert Stubblefield was the son of Edward Stubblefield, who moved from Virginia to Ohio, and afterwards with his family moved to Funk's Grove. Robert Stubblefield, from whom are descended most of the people by that name who lived in McLean county, was born in Halifax county, state of Virginia, the 23d day of November, 1793.

Edward Stubblefield, one of the three brothers who came from England to Virginia, was a captain in the Revolutionary War. He served in the regiment commanded by Col. William Greene Mumford.

On page 304 of Heitman's Historical Register, a publication containing the names of officers in the Revolutionary War, the following is found concerning him:

"Mumford, William Greene, (Va.) Colonel Deputy Comissary General of Issues, 18th June, 1777, to ————".

Very Respectfully, D. P. Murphy,
Acting Commissioner of Pensions, D. C.

Captain Edward Stubblefield, according to the Revolutionary history, was a brave and patriotic soldier. He was a man of unusual ability, and not only won the esteem of his Colonel, but he won the affections of his Colonel's secretary, Mary Lightfoot Mumford, his daughter. Col. Mumford came from Manchester, England. His wife, Anna Stanhope, also came from England. She was of the noted family of Stanhopes, so often mentioned in English history. Col. Mumford was a man of great wealth, and loved his adopted country. He was often spoken of in Revolutionary history as a brave and patriotic soldier, and not only gave his time and energy, but he paid the expenses of his own regiment and loaned large sums of money to the provisional government.

Robert Stubblefield showed the characteristics of his ancestors. At the time of the first call for volunteers in 1812, he was nineteen years old. He enlisted at Halifax and was stationed at Norfolk, Va. During this service his company was stricken with yellow fever, and all of them died except himself and one other soldier, he being taken home very sick and not expected to live. On regaining his health, his brother Edward, who had gone to Ohio and located land, persuaded him to accompany him to his new home. At that place, or near there, lived Mr. Adam Funk.

Robert Stubblefield married Sarah Funk, daughter of Adam Funk, on the 14th day of April, 1814. To them were born four children, Absalom, Ann, Mary and John. Sarah Stubblefield died December 13, 1821. On July 29, 1822, Robert Stubblefield married Miss Dorothy Funk, sister of his deceased wife. By this marriage were born the following children: George Maley, who was born in Ohio; Jesse, the first white child born in Funk's Grove; Francis, Adam, Eve, Edward, Isaac, Frank, William Royal Chase and Charles Wesley. There are now living descendants of Robert Stubblefield as follows: Eight children, fifty-nine grand-children, ninety-six great-grand-children, and thirteen great-great-grand-children, making a total of one hundred and seventy-six. Robert Stubblefield with his wife and five children came to Illinois the 18th day of February, 1824. They resided for a short time in a log cabin with William Brock and family

and Absalom and Isaac Funk, two bachelor brothers of Mrs. Stubblefield's. Mr. Stubblefield was accompanied on his trip to Illinois by his father-in-law, Adam Funk, and Jesse and Robert Funk.

There were eighteen of them who lived that winter in one cabin. During the early spring of 1825, Robert Stubblefield built a large and commodious cabin on the north side of the Grove, at what is now known as the old homestead. On the 25th of September, 1825, he moved his family and worldly possessions into his new home.

Robert Stubblefield was baptized in infancy in the Church of England, at West Overy Chapel, Halifax county, Va. He afterwards united with the Methodist Episcopal church in Ohio, in 1822, before starting on his journey to Illinois. He was ever faithful and zealous in his religious belief, and in his cabin the Rev. Peyton Mitchell, of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, preached the first sermon ever preached in Funk's Grove.

This cabin was visited from time to time by ministers of different churches, who found here a warm welcome and an agreeable home. It was recognized as the local church until the building of the school house near this present church where we assemble for this reunion.

The first cabin built by Robert Stubblefield, the father of John and George, was about eighteen by twenty feet, and built out of round logs, evened off in the inside. The chimney was made of mud and sticks. The foundation of the chimney was made of puncheons and then filled in with sticks and mud. That made the jambs and back walls, and from that on, it was made of sticks and clay. The clay was put on to cover the sticks and protect them from fire. For furniture they had six old-fashioned split-bottomed chairs. Their first table was made out of limb puncheons. It was necessary to have four legs to support the table, but the bedstead required only one. It was made of a solitary post, with holes bored in it, and attached by sticks to the wall. Under this they had a trundle bed made of ordinary sticks from the forest. This could be drawn out at night and pushed under again in daytime, and thus give more room in the cabin, which was none too large at best for the growing family. They had an oven with a lid to it that would hold about six gallons,

in which they baked corn loaves. It was not a Dutch oven, as they are built on frames. They also had a skillet, not a frying pan,—there is a difference. These, together with a cast iron pot for boiling meat, a few pewter plates and pewter bowls, constituted the complete outfit for housekeeping. There were no washing machines in those days. Mrs. Stubblefield boiled the clothes and then put them on a bench and the children beat them. Afterwards a plank with ridges on it was used to wash on, and later that was covered with zinc.

There was plenty to eat, even if the variety was not very great. There were many wild hogs in those days, and these furnished the greater part of their meat for the first few years. They were captured when very small and tamed, and brought up on milk. They were wild as deer if they were allowed to run in the woods for any length of time, and the male hog would fight. They had long noses, and bristles six inches long on their backs. They were of different colors,—some red, some spotted, some red with white belt around. Gridley brought the first coffee here. The people drank sage tea, and in winter they made tea out of sassafras. They also made tea out of sycamore chips. They bought coffee to have on Sunday.

When Robert Stubblefield came here he brought two cows with him; they were what were called Patton's Durhams. They furnished the families with plenty of good milk and butter. Maple sugar and molasses were obtained easily, but they had to go to Danville for salt. Wheat was raised after a few years. An old man named Rhodes had the first mill, and it was what was called a band mill. It was built in a frame and run like an old horse power. It did not grind very fine. The next mill was Harber's in Twin Grove. This was a band mill, also. The first water mill was over on the Kickapoo, run by a man named Eveland and called the Eveland mill. It was a tub wheel mill and ground pretty fast. The next mill was down in DeWitt county. Then there was one at Randolph Grove, run by a man named Hampton, and afterwards by Baldwin. Quite a while afterward, Moore's Mill, on Sugar Creek, was built by John Caton.

The first threshing was done by tramping out the wheat with horses. After it was tramped out it was thrown up into the air and cleaned in that way. The first flour was very coarse

and pretty brown. But it was more healthful than the fine flour is now.

The first year the Stubblefields came here they wore buckskin pants, and a good pair would last four or five years. The first jeans worn were spun and woven by the mother the year of the deep snow. The jeans was made of cotton for woof and they spun the wool on a wheel. The big wheel was used for spinning wool, and the small wheel for spinning flax. Adam Guthrie's father made the first loom they had. The women folks did all the cutting, making and sewing of the clothes. The flax was raised here and prepared for use with a flax brake. The women would take the coarse tow out, and gather the fine stuff and spin it into thread. Some cotton was also raised at that time in this section. The women made the men's clothes, as well as their own. They continued making clothing until Gridley came here, which was at a pretty early day. He brought with him a small stock of goods, and material was obtained from him. I think old man Allin had the first store. The first calicoes were bought at this store, at from thirty to fifty cents a yard.

There were a number of tanning mills in the country, but the settlers tanned their own leather and made their shoes for several years. They wore shoe-packs, which were a little better than a pair of slippers.

The first market for grain was at Pekin and Peoria, but the best market was Chicago. In 1842, grain was hauled to Chicago with an ox team, and sold for ninety cents a bushel. Salt at $1.25 per barrel was brought back, and what was not needed was sold for $5 per barrel.

Not much attention was given to horse raising, but they raised their own horses. Robert Stubblefield had some horses of the Diomede stock which were considerably better than the common horses.

There was not much serious sickness, but of course they had the ague regularly every fall. There were no doctors in those days, but the medicine given was "bone-set" tea, which broke the chills, and also nearly every part of the anatomy. Dr. Wheeler was the first man that ever doctored in the family of Stubblefields. He lived in Bloomington. He used to come down to see a widow that lived out in the Grove, but not professionally; he wanted

to marry her. In the course of time one of her children took sick and she called the doctor. After he had administered the medicine to the sick child, she asked him what she owed him, and he said "Two dollars." "Well," she said, "Doctor, you have called on me twice and I think I will charge you a dollar a visit, so we will just call it even."

Robert Stubblefield was never known to charge any man a cent for board and lodging except peddlers. He was not very friendly toward them, and did not like their business. The people were very friendly and sociable in those days, and called on each other frequently, notwithstanding the fact that the country homes were so far apart.

The first school this family of children ever attended was in a school house that stood where the Funk's Grove church now stands. It was built in the same general way as other log houses, except that it had a window the full length of the building. This window was made of paper and greased with hog grease to make it transparent. It had a fireplace eight feet long, made of stone and mortar. Baker taught in 1828, Johnson in 1829, and Biggs in 1830-31. Biggs and his wife lived in the school house; the snow was so deep that they could not get back and forth. This school house was built in 1827, and Robert Guthrie did most of the work. The books were Webster's Spelling Book, and the New Testament for a reading book. No writing was done for awhile. Pens were made out of goose quills, and the paper was about the size of our common fool's cap. The first reader introduced was called the English Reader. Rick's Arithmetic, which was a pretty hard one for those days, was used. "The children that composed the school at that time were Uncle Ab and Aunt Nancy, and Polly, John, Jake and George Funk, and Jim and 'Lije Brock, and Hardy and his sister Mary Ann, and the Bakers, and Abe Hughes' children, the Guthries, the Johnsons and the Halloways. The boys used to fight a little, but there were no rows between the teacher and scholars at that day. The old folks had them better trained. Shinney on the ice was a favorite game. Sometimes the children ran away from school. Everything a boy could invent was practiced there.

The second preacher that ever preached at the Grove church was a man by the name of James Latta. He was a very fine

looking man, sociable and friendly, and was also a good singer. The Stubblefield parents were Methodists, and in those days they did not allow their members to dance, so the children had very little of that amusement.

The neighbors worked together at house-raisings and harvesting. The wheat was cut with a sickle. Harvest hands as a rule would not work without whisky. It was customary also when you went to visit a neighbor for him to put out the bottle, but it was seldom that you would see a drunken man. Robert Stubblefield would not have any whisky, and he told the men if they couldn't cut his wheat without whisky, he could cut it himself. They cut his wheat and didn't have any whisky either.

They used to muster here in the early days. Every man between eighteen and fifty had to muster. There were no uniforms worn except by the officers. They had old muskets for arms. John Jones, of DeWitt county, was the colonel. He would be on his horse on muster days, but everybody else walked. The colonel was about six feet high, bald-headed, and very conceited, but was a pretty good officer.

There were many Indians around the Grove in those days, and they never left until 1830. Several families camped down on the creek between the settlement and the church. They would come in the spring and make sugar, and the squaws would raise a little garden truck. They were of the Kickapoo and Pottawattomie tribes.

There was an old Indian Chief, Machina, who was down in Funk's Grove one Sunday, hunting, and about the middle of the afternoon reached Robert Stubblefield's place. They had just finished dinner when he rode up. He had a deer that he had shot and placed across his horse. He rode up and gave signs that he was hungry. Mr. Stubblefield said: "Machina, you can talk as well as I can. Ask me like a man and I will give you your dinner." Then he said he was hungry and wanted something to eat. The boys were told to fetch out a pitcher of milk and some bread, and that with cabbage and other things left from their dinner, was given to him. He got off his horse and then a second Indian came. Machina took all the cabbage. Ab Funk cursed him and told him to divide up with the other Indian, and he did so.

The next spring the Indians were acting ugly. Robert Stubblefield, Ab Funk, and a man by the name of Souder went up to Old Town to see Chief Machina because they were afraid they were all going to be massacred. The chief told them to go home, that they would never be molested. And they were not. That was in the spring of 1832.*

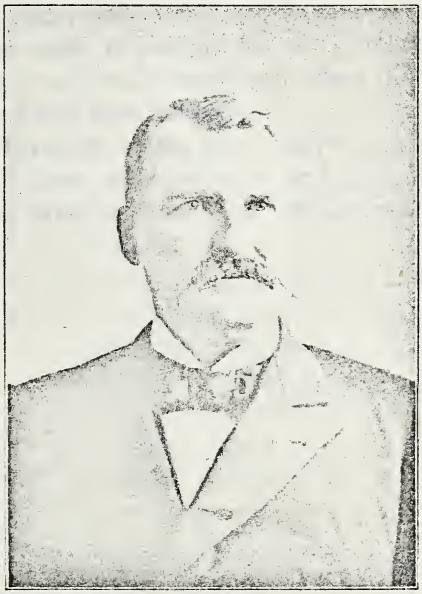
There was plenty of game, such as deer, turkeys and coons, but no elk or buffalo. There were many buffalo bones scattered over the prairie. There was plenty of wild fruit,—plums by the wagon-load, but of late years they are not to be found. Lettuce, radishes, beets and parsnips were raised from seed brought with them when they came. Kale and tongue grass furnished material for greens. Tomatoes were raised in the front yard for ornaments, and called balsam apples. They were considered poison.

The reason the first settlers selected the timber for their homes was because it was too cold to winter in the log cabins on the prairie.

Their first plows were bar share plows, which shoved the sod over. Their first farm consisted of ten acres of timber which they had cleared. The prairie sod was hard to break, and it took five yoke of oxen to a plow when it was first broken. When the wild grass thinned out, the blue grass came in, and this sod could be broken with two horses. In the spring they branded their cattle and turned them out. About the first of June they would burn over a place and it would kill all the weeds, and the young grass would come up and fatten the cattle better than anything else.

Mr. John Stubblefield was married in 1842. He said he had at that time a horse, saddle and bridle, and that his father let him have another horse just the color of his own. After he was married, in Ohio, he drove back with them to a two-horse wagon.

*A doubtful story. The Indians left in 1829. However in 1831, while the Black Hawk War was raging, Mr. George Funk and ten other citizens were requested to visit the praying creek of friendly Kickapoos at what is now Oliver's Grove, in Livingston county, and reported upon their return that the Indians declared the McLean county settlers would not be molested This is probably the basis of the story.



DR. W. H. WILDER.

Former Pres. Ill. Wesleyan.

Nobody would believe just what the first settlers went through. And they talk about the men making their great sacrifices, and doing thus and so,—it was the women that sacrificed, that cooked by the great big fire-place, and only one room in the house,—who spun the yarn and knit the socks, and milked the cows and churned the butter in a wooden churn with a dasher that went up and down. Sometimes the boys helped with the churning.

No millionaire of today has as light and happy a heart as did those pioneer Stubblefields who began life with little else than strong hands, kindly hearts, and resolute dispositions. Under conditions unknown today they extracted much sweetness from life, established right characters, and experienced financial success. They have made it possible for the younger generation to have greater opportunities in many ways than they had, and now scores rise up and call them blessed.

In the battle of life in this busy and progressive age, may we not lose sight of their noble examples and their correct ideas of what constitutes true manhood and womanhood.

Life and Character of Hon. Isaac Funk.

BY L. H. KERRICK.

Celebration of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Settlement of Funk's Grove. Under the auspices of the McLean County Historical Society.

FUNK'S GROVE CHURCH,
FUNK'S GROVE, ILL., September 21, 1899.

Tacitus, the Roman author and historian, wrote of the life of his father-in-law, Agricola, deeming it a pious duty. With such an illustrious example before me, I make no apology for attempting to write of the life of my father-in-law, Hon. Isaac Funk; I only lament my want of skill to write of his character and achievements as they deserve.

Isaac Funk was born November 17, 1797, on a farm in Clark county, Kentucky; he died, after a brief illness, in the home of his son Duncan, in Bloomington, Illinois, January 29, 1865—the span of his earthly career being sixty-seven years, two months and twelve days; he lies buried here in Funk's Grove Cemetery, remote from travelled ways and thronged towns, beside the same still running stream and in the heart of the same magnificent forest which captivated his eye, when, as a young, strong man, full of ambition and hope and energy, he came this way in search of a home and fortune. By his side lie the remains of his beloved and faithful wife, Cassandra, whose death occurred only about four hours later than his.

One could hardly conceive a resting place more fitting for a brave, strong, noble child of nature, such as he was, than this secluded spot. He lived and wrought with nature; the fields, the trees, the streams, the sun and moon and stars, the rains, the winds and the snows were his companions and co-workers in life, and they have not forgotten nor forsaken him.

These majestic trees keep their stately vigil about his grave; the winds sigh over it; summer spreads it with her soft carpet

of green; winter with noiseless hand lays her deep white pall above it; the moon and stars look tenderly down through the silence of night upon it; his labors done, he sleeps in nature's own home, enfolded in nature's own dear bosom.

Of Mr. Funk's remoter ancestry, unfortunately we have but little accurate knowledge; the associates of his youth have passed with him, and we cannot go to them for information. He never talked much about his ancestry, and he left nothing in writing about them. We do not set this down to any want of respect on Mr. Funk's part for their memory. It will be borne in mind that he died when not far past the meridian of life, at a time when his business interests had reached their greatest proportions.

He was State Senator, adding the duties of this important office to the burden of his private affairs; he was always completely engrossed with the business of the present, having little time to reflect upon, or talk about the past.

If Mr. Funk had lived to that age when men usually are obliged to relax their more active business life, no doubt he would have been inclined, as others have been, to review his early life, and we would have been now in possession of many interesting facts, which as it is, are out of reach and will probably so remain.

The name is German; his grandfather, Adam Funk, was German born, but in what place or province we do not know. He came to this country about the middle of the eighteenth century, and probably settled first in Pennsylvania. Lists of German emigrants who settled in and near Philadelphia and in Lancaster county about that time, show that the Funks were heading toward America in considerable numbers. The name occurs very frequently in these lists. Isaac Funk's father, whose name also was Adam, was reared in Virginia; in his lifetime he acquired and lost a considerable fortune; his chief losses came by standing surety for his friends. His wife's name was Sarah Moore, and she was of German descent. They had nine children, six boys and three girls: Absalom, John, Jacob, Sarah, Isaac, Jesse, Dolly, Dorothea and Robert.

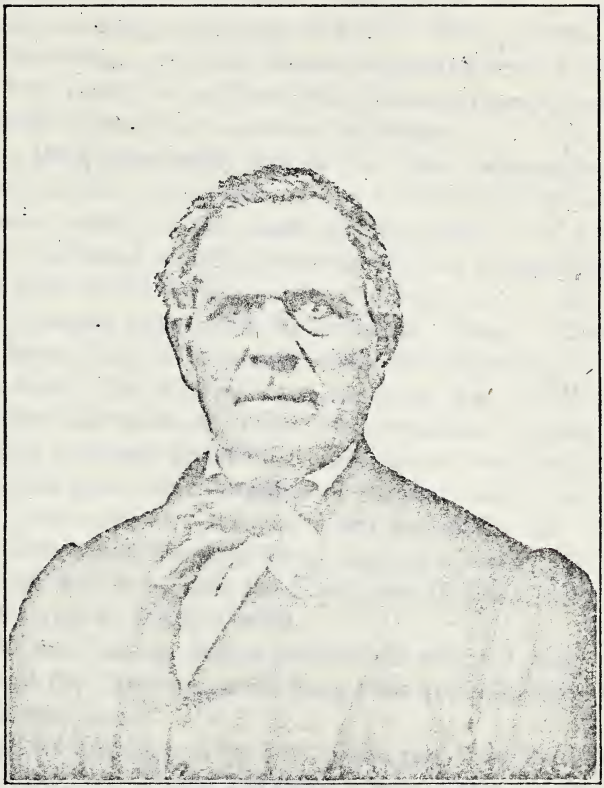
We cannot fix the exact date at which the family moved to Kentucky, but it was not far from 1790. Of the Kentucky home, where Isaac was born, nothing remains but a heap of stones

and debris where the chimney once stood. The first ten years of life were spent here; all knowledge of the manner in which those years were spent perished with Mr. Funk. We can guess that he picked up chips or carried wood for his mother, or drove the chickens off the garden, or brought the cow, or had his face washed and kept still and ate at the second table when there was company, as did other well regulated boys, receiving from time to time, with what grace he possessed, such corporal and other punishments as his short-comings indicated to be needful for his present and future well-being. Three or four of those years he was of suitable age to be going to school, but it is altogether improbable that there was any school in Clark county at that time, within the boy's reach.

In 1807 the family removed to Fayette county, Ohio, and settled on Paint Creek about six miles northeast of Washington Court House, and four miles south of what is now the village of Bloomingburg—a beautiful and fertile region then, as it is now. Mr. Funk spent thirteen consecutive years at this place; being then twenty-three years old, he went over into Virginia and worked a year in the Kanawa salt works; returned then to the Ohio home, remaining there two years more. During the residence in Ohio, Mr. Funk worked on a farm most of the time, sometimes at home, sometimes working out by the month. Together with his father and older brother Absalom, he did some trading in cattle, hogs and other stock.

An unlucky venture of some kind brought Mr. Funk in debt about two thousand dollars—a very great sum in those days, especially when on the wrong side of the account. This debt still hung over him when he came to Illinois, but we can say that it was not many years until he was able to return to Ohio and pay his debt with its interest; which he faithfully did.

All the schooling Mr. Funk ever had, he received while living in Ohio. We learn that he attended school all told, parts of three winters; this when he was ten to thirteen years old. We know nothing of the character of his school; of his teacher all we know is that he was renowned as a very severe disciplinarian even for that day. Mr. Funk often alluded to the frequent and fearful thrashings that he gave his pupils; much of the time of the school was occupied with that work; all remembrance of the other quali-



HON. ISAAC FUNK.

fications of the teacher, if he had any, seemed to have faded from Mr. Funk's mind.

We, who know all about schooling, smile at the old time methods, and yet there must have been some kind of virtue and a good deal of it in those back-woods schools, otherwise how will we explain the fact that so many boys of those days with so little schooling accomplished so much, while now so many with so much schooling, accomplish so little. Then, with two or three years' schooling, men built fortunes and states; now a good many of us with twenty-two or three years' schooling are just about able to live off the state or to squander a fortune.

In 1823, presumably late in the year, accompanied by his brother Absalom, Mr. Funk set out for Illinois. He arrived in Sangamon county in the month of April, 1824. In a sketch of his life, published in 1874, it is asserted that he was detained for a long time on the western journey by high water in the Wabash river; I cannot accept this for authentic history. Anyone who knew Isaac Funk or who will study his character, can hardly believe that a few feet of water, more or less, in the Wabash, would have had much effect upon his movements. In May he came on to this part, and pitched his camp on the east side just in the edge of this grove, near the center of the south side of what is now section sixteen, about a mile and a half east and a half mile south of this church and cemetery. From Sangamon county, Mr. William Brock and wife came with the Funks and all lived together for a part of a year in the first cabin.

The next winter, Robert Stubblefield with his wife, who was a sister of the Funks, came out from Ohio and joined the brothers in their new home.

Still holding his position here, in the year 1826 Mr. Funk went to Fort Clark, now Peoria, and raised a crop of corn on river bottom land near that place. We can safely surmise that this move was necessary in order to get a little ready money; there was a market there and some ground open for tillage. While at Peoria he made the acquaintance of Miss Cassandra Sharp; in June, 1826, they were married; the pair returned immediately to Funk's Grove, and there lived their lives, very near the place where the first camp was made. From Mr. Funk's marriage dates the beginning of his remarkable career.

His purpose in coming to Illinois was to get a place and room where he could raise, feed and deal in cattle, hogs and other farm stock. He had acquired some knowledge of the business in Ohio, and no doubt a taste for it also. When he married and brought his bride back to Funk's Grove, we may know the purpose was fixed to follow that kind of business and that Funk's Grove would be the place where he would follow it.

There were then less than thirty families in the whole territory included now in the bounds of McLean county; of course there was not much farm stock of any kind.

The Funks began to farm a little with such implements as they could get or make, and to buy what stock there was for sale within their reach. They bought cattle, hogs, sheep, horses and mules, and drove to market wherever a market could be found. The brothers, Isaac and Absalom, were equal partners in all these transactions.

They went to Sangamon county and other older settlements, as they gained a little headway in the business, and bought cattle and brought them to the home place; these they would graze for a season or perhaps feed awhile, according to their condition, and then find a market for them. Their first markets were Peoria and Galena—later Chicago. Sometimes they took droves of cattle into Ohio, finding markets for them there.

Their first transactions were small of necessity, but as settlement increased and the stock of the country increased, they kept equal pace, widening the field of their operations. They were alert, knew their business, dealt fairly with everybody, worked very hard, and as nearly as I can find out, they gained a pretty complete monopoly of the stock buying business in all this region; and they made money, as they deserved to do.

As early as 1835, Chicago became their principal market. They were sending so much stock there, that it was thought best for one of the brothers to locate in Chicago, in order to take better care of the business at that end of the line. Isaac had now five small children; Absalom was still a bachelor and ten years the older. These circumstances suited Absalom better for locating and taking the work in Chicago, which he did, and Isaac remained on the farm.

The differing characteristics of the men also suited them to this division of the work. If Isaac was the stronger man of the two, being possessed of somewhat more energy and courage, Absalom was cast in a little smoother mold, more diplomatic, more suave. For about five years longer the brothers remained in partnership, prosecuting their business with great tact and energy.

If the necessary limits of this paper would permit, I would be glad to speak at length of the character of Absalom Funk. He was a man of integrity and marked ability. From first to last of the partnership, the brothers worked in perfect harmony, and there was always mutual good will. The memory of "Uncle Absalom" is dear to the Funk family, and his name is always mentioned with profound respect.

The partnership was dissolved in the year 1841. Isaac bought Absalom's share in the lands they had together acquired, and continued buying and feeding and marketing cattle and hogs and other stock as before. Instead of curtailing the business, he still increased it. His land-holdings were now larger, more labor was available, and he was farming and feeding more extensively. He bought cattle far and near, sometimes going to other states for them. He fed all his own crops to stock, as well as the grain share which he received from his tenants, frequently buying the share of his tenants also. He put cattle out with other farmers to have them fed, paying so much a pound for the gain, and he bought the crops of still others and had them fed out on the farms where they were raised.

It was a common practice for him to sell his cattle or contract them a year forward, to parties in Chicago, at a stipulated price per hundred weight, dressed; then he would buy and graze and feed the cattle to fill these contracts. He went to Chicago sometimes with as many as 1500 cattle in his drove; sometimes as many as 1000 hogs. One winter, together with his brother Jesse, he drove more than 6000 hogs to Chicago. To move these large droves of stock safely and get them in market in good condition, was no boy's play. It required a high degree of skill and a most accurate and practical knowledge of the business, besides great physical strength and courage and endurance. When one of the larger herds of cattle was to be moved to market, a section of

it, say two or three hundred, would be started with its proper complement of men attending. Next day another section would be mobilized and started on the road, and so on until all the herd was moving. These sections or smaller droves were kept about a day's march apart. It will be readily seen that in this manner the herd could be moved with greater safety and expedition than in a single great drove. About fourteen days were required for a bunch of steers to travel to Chicago, and about three weeks from the time the first were started out the last drove or section would get in.

Heavy rains, thunder storms, high waters, sleet storms and snows were frequent incidents of these trips. Thunder storms by night terrified the cattle in their new surroundings. It was often necesary for the herdsmen to remain in their saddles all night during the prevalence of a severe storm, in order to prevent a stampede of the cattle, or to round them up and get them in hand again in case a stampede occurred. This kind of work called for the greatest courage and the most daring equestrianship, as well as great physical endurance.

For the most part, corrals were found for the cattle, and shelter for the men of nights, but frequently all were obliged to camp in the open prairie. At such times the men had nothing but the ground for a bed, a saddle or a bag for a pillow, a great-coat or blanket for cover and the starry sky or lowering clouds for a roof. Mr. Funk nearly always went with his cattle, and took his share or more than his share of the hardest, the most disagreeable and the most dangerous parts of the work.

Slaughtering facilities at Chicago were limited in those days, and these separate droves or sections of the herd were sized as nearly as practicable to a day's capacity of the slaughter-house to which the cattle were going. In this way each drove could be immediately slaughtered on its arrival, thereby preventing expensive delay and congestion of stock at Chicago. When slaughtered, each beef was weighed separately in quarters on platform scales. To George, the oldest son, was allotted the business for several years, of taking these weights. The work would begin about four o'clock in the morning and continue day after day until late at night. The whole time required to move and slaughter

one of these larger herds of cattle, straighten up all the business and get home, was from four to five weeks.

Droves of hogs were moved in about the same manner, except that it was necessary to have a sort of travelling slaughter camp along with the hog drove. A separate gang of men was needed to take charge of such heavier and fatter hogs as gave out on the way. Sometimes these would be loaded in wagons and sent forward to Chicago, the wagons returning and loading again, if necessary. Sometimes, in colder weather, a good many would be slaughtered en route and sent forward dressed.

When his sons were old enough, they shared with their father the labors and hardships as well as much of the responsibility of his great business; but for many years it all rested on his shoulders alone. I have no doubt he often saw all he was worth and a good deal more on foot moving between Funk's Grove and Chicago. He nearly always had big money obligations maturing.

When we consider the exigencies of such a situation, together with the uncertainties and risks of such a business as his, we may know that broad shoulders and a stout heart were needed to bear up under it all; but he had them, if ever a man had.

I do not believe that Mr. Funk had any scheme in mind when he came to Illinois, even if he had any wish, to acquire a large amount of land. He did not come to Illinois for that purpose; the stock business was the thing uppermost in his mind. The fertility and value of these prairie lands were not generally known to the first comers; indeed, several years later than the first settlement in McLean county, we find United States surveyors making such notes on their plats as this: "Level or gently undulating prairie; may be useful some time for grazing." Such notes appear on plats or surveys made of some of the richest lands in the world, lying within two or three miles of this grove. These surveyors evidently did not suspect the matchless fertility of the lands they were surveying. All the good farm land they had ever seen in use had been cleared of timber; therefore timber land is the only good farm land; such I presume was their process of reasoning.

In the west side of the grove near the residence of Mr. Jacob Funk, may still be seen a clearing made by an early settler, who

thought if one wanted a farm, he must, of course, go to the woods and clear it up. Even if the prairie land was rich, the first settlers believed it would be next to impossible to live in the open bleak prairie away from the timber. But I suspect that the Funks very soon discovered the fertility and productiveness of the prairie land. They had farmed a little of it from the very first. They never cleared any timber land to farm it; and just as soon as the lands came into market, they began to buy and to buy a good deal of it .

I think we may say that it is evident that they had been here but a very short time until they foresaw that all these lands, prairie as well as timber, would become valuable; and a new purpose was formed which, plainly stated, was to buy and hold all the land they possibly could in and around this grove. This purpose, once formed, became the controlling motive in every business transaction. For this purpose they worked and planned by day and by night; they pursued it with tremendous energy and splendid daring; they bought land right and left, but not without method, as we shall see.

The stock business now, instead of being the end or ultimate object of their ambition, became the means or instrument for accomplishing another object—the purchase of land. The stock business was to become the machine with which the money might be made to pay for land.

In 1829	they bought	1040	acres.
In 1830	"	400	"
In 1832	"	400	"
In 1834	"	560	"
In 1836	"	760	"
In 1837	"	1360	"
In 1838	"	720	"
In 1839	"	480	"
In 1841	"	40	"

In this year it will be remembered that the partnership with Absalom was dissolved. For that year and the five succeeding years, Mr. Funk's land purchases were small; this no doubt for two reasons—he was paying out on Absalom's half of the lands they had bought together, and these were the years covered by

the period of great financial depression, commencing with the suspension of the bank of the United States in 1837 or 1838.

In 1848	he bought	320	acres.
In 1849	"	2640	"
In 1850	"	720	"

In this year 2,600,000 acres of land belonging to the United States and lying adjacent to the proposed route of the Illinois Central railway were ceded to the state of Illinois, and in turn granted by the state to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in aid to the construction of their road. The grant covered the alternate sections not already patented, for about fifteen miles each way from the right of way of the road. The Federal government closed its land offices until the railroad company could select its lands, or at least withdraw from sale all government lands lying within the belt of the railroad grant. Sometime in 1852 the railroad lands came into market and the government land offices were opened again. In the meantime, settlement had increased and times were growing better. The Chicago & Alton railroad was projected and partly constructed by this time.

The prospect of railroads greatly enhanced the land values on or near their lines. By this time, too, the fertility and productiveness of the prairie lands were known to all. Mr. Funk clearly saw that a period of extraordinary activity in land buying was at hand. If he would buy what he wanted and where he wanted it, he saw he must buy now; the opportunity would be passing or passed. He had actual and practical knowledge of the value and fertility of the land; he had faith in it, and faith in a great future for his state and country, and he had faith in himself.

Without wavering and without hesitation, but with magnificent courage, he made his last great plunge; and in the short space of three or four years, he bought more than 12,000 acres of land, and sent himself $80,000.00 in debt. I do not mean to convey the impression, nor is it to be inferred, that there was any element of recklessness in this great venture. There was none. He carefully measured the risks of the undertaking, and deliberately weighed its enormous obligations, but having reckoned well his resources, he believed he could pay out, and he did. He

met all his obligations at maturity and paid for every acre of land that he bought.

Mr. Funk's land-holdings were in round numbers 25,000 acres, all in McLean county, 20,000 being in and around this grove, in one tract or body. Nearly all of this 20,000 acres is in Funk's Grove township, but it extends somewhat into Mt. Hope and Dale also.*

We do not know that any other man in the United States has, by his own unaided efforts, acquired as much land in one body, equally valuable and fertile, as there is in this Funk's Grove tract; in this Mr. Funk's achievement stands unique and unparalleled.

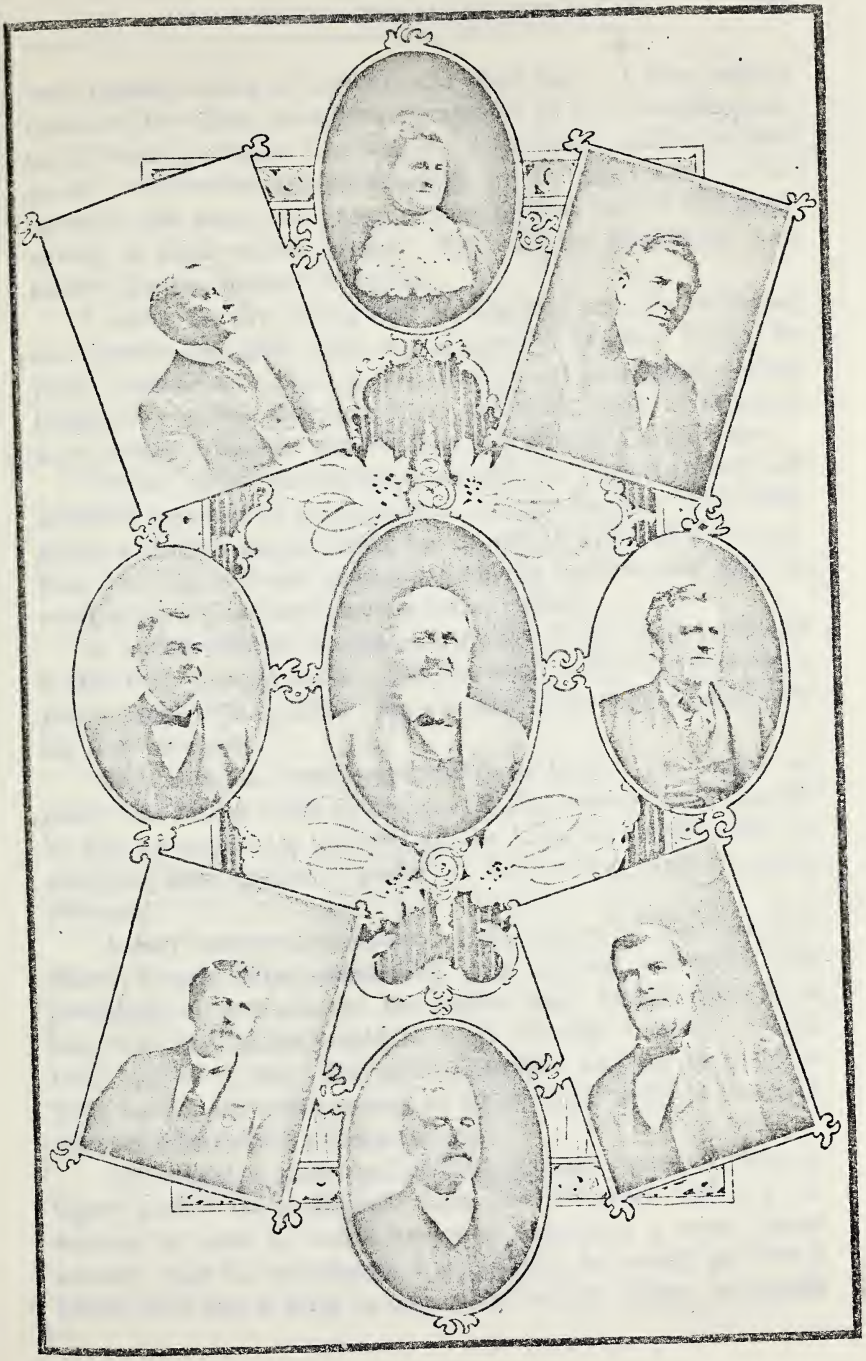
He saw all his lands enclosed and conveniently sub-divided by good fences, and otherwise sufficiently improved to be at least usable. He had on his farm at the time of his death probably $70,000 worth of live stock and other farming equipment.

Mr. Funk never engaged in any business enterprise outside of his farming and stock business, either by himself or with others, except that he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Bloomington and owner of four-fifteenths of its stock. He left no debts.

He did not make a will; he had indicated to his children the lands which he desired each to have, and a division was made, strictly following his known wishes. The process of partition was very simple. Quit-claim deeds were executed to each one for his portion, all the others joining. These deeds were written on blank paper by the Hon. O. T. Reeves and M. Swan, Esq.; Mr. Swan taking the acknowledgments as a justice of the peace. Thus the estate was settled without the intervention of courts, or even the aid of attorneys, except to the extent just mentioned.

It is not to gratify unseemly pride that I have thus outlined the extent and value of Mr. Funk's estate. What a man does—what he achieves, is the just measure of his character and abilities. If it is proper and laudable for me to write of his life and character, it is equally proper that I should set forth what he accomplished. I could say much more of the magnificent estate he acquired; for instance, this grove has been one of the best and

*At this time the estate at Funk's Grove comprises about 25,000 acres.



CHILDREN OF ISAAC AND CASSANDRA FUNK.

Absalom B.
Benjamin F.

Sarah Kerrick.
Jacob.

Duncan M.
Francis M.
La Fayette

most valuable bodies of timber in the whole land. I have roughly estimated that there have been carried out of it, of building material, fencing, railroad ties, fuel, etc., more than a million dollars' worth. An eastern lumber company set its plant here in the seventies and sawed out three or four million feet of the finest quality of black walnut lumber. The company paid more than $60,000 for this lumber in the tree.

I claim for Mr. Funk that he had the sagacity to foresee and measure the great value of this grove of timber. It may be justly claimed also that he saw that in all this great central Illinois belt of fine rich land, there was none richer or better or more certain to become valuable than this around Funk's Grove.

In the pursuit of his cattle business, he made frequent and extended journeys in all directions; he was familiar with other groves and other prairie lands, but he stayed with this grove and these prairies. He saw then what anyone can see now, that he could not anywhere have made a better choice.

A notable fact in connection with Mr. Funk's land purchases is that they were all made within the short period of twenty-four years—from 1829 to 1853. He was some years longer paying for his last purchase.

He was in no sense a speculator in lands. He bought no lands with money made by the rise in the price of land, because he sold no land. He paid for all the lands he bought with the moderate and legitimate profits of his farming and live-stock business.

A very cursory examination of the history of his land purchases reveals some remarkable and original methods. His preference at first was for the timber land; he saw that for a long time the timber would be more valuable than the prairie land, and so it was. His next preference was for those lands lying nearest the water-courses, or where water could be procured most abundantly and at least expense.

He bought a great deal of land in small tracts of forty or eighty acres. He so disposed these purchases that, with a given amount of land, he would surround sometimes a much larger amount than his purchases; for instance, he would go into a section and buy a forty in one or two of its corners, an eighty

in one side, then say an eighty in the section joining, opposite the first eighty bought. He would therefore invade several adjoining sections at a time, and by buying sometimes not more than a quarter of each, he would manage to enclose or nearly enclose with his purchases all of the balance of those sections. If we should take any given date between the years 1832 or 1833 and 1850, and plat his holdings at that time, we would find them arranged as a complete net-work, enclosing other large amounts of land. This was no doubt a strictly original method, and a most effective one, without which it would have been impossible for him to acquire the amount of land that he did.

Was it fair? Was it legitimate? Certainly. Any other man had a right to do the same thing, and the opportunities in this wide, wide western domain were practically unlimited.

I have been impressed for years with the thought that Isaac Funk was a most extraordinary character; I doubt if he was fully appreciated by his contemporaries. As for the present generation, I feel quite sure it has never taken the just and full measure of his powers and characteristics. To accomplish what he accomplished, in the time, in the manner and under the conditions, required ability of the highest order. It was only forty years—less than forty-one—from the time he came to Illinois to the time of his death. Lots of men have spent longer time getting ready to do something. Just picture him, if you will, in 1824; a young man standing before his rude cabin of poles and clapboards, no other human habitation within miles of his. On this side of him the primeval forest, on that, the boundless, trackless prairie, over which swept the fierce winter blast and the fiercer autumn fires; without money, in debt. Without friends who had money; without schooling; the owner of two or three horses, a cow or two, an ax and a meagre equipment of the rudest agricultural implements. Then picture the princely estate he had acquired and the honors he had brought to his name in 1865. No ordinary powers ever carried a man over such a breach as lies between those two pictures.

Without models or leaders, he organized his great live-stock business; indeed, he created it in most of its factors. He made business where there was none before. While building his own

business and fortune, his efforts were of incalculable benefit to the whole community.

It would have been quite impracticable in the earlier times for the smaller farmers to get their stock and surplus grain to the then distant markets, but they found in Isaac Funk, always a ready and honorable buyer. He made a home market for much of the surplus live stock and other products of this region, and by his enterprise and his bold and extensive operations, he moved the stock of the country to the markets, at very much less expense than the generality of farmers or smaller operators could have moved it. He got surplus cattle and hogs out, and brought the money back in their place.

His enterprise stimulated stock-raising and farming all about and in a marked degree. There is no doubt that the enterprise and ability of this one man was a dominant factor in the rapid development not only of McLean county, but also of a much larger region about it. His business, besides furnishing a market and outlet for the surplus stock of the country, furnished also paying employment to many people. There are numbers of men in McLean and other counties now owning farm homes, good ones, too, who got their start and their money with which to buy land by working for Mr. Funk, feeding or driving cattle and hogs.

Everything must have its sufficient cause; nothing happens. If Isaac Funk achieved such great success in his business, we will find in his character, if we examine closely, the reasons or causes, putting it so, from which came his success. The causes were there; they had to be. We will have to content ourselves with noting a few of the more prominent characteristics of the man—those which in our judgment distinguished him from other men, and which aided him most in his career.

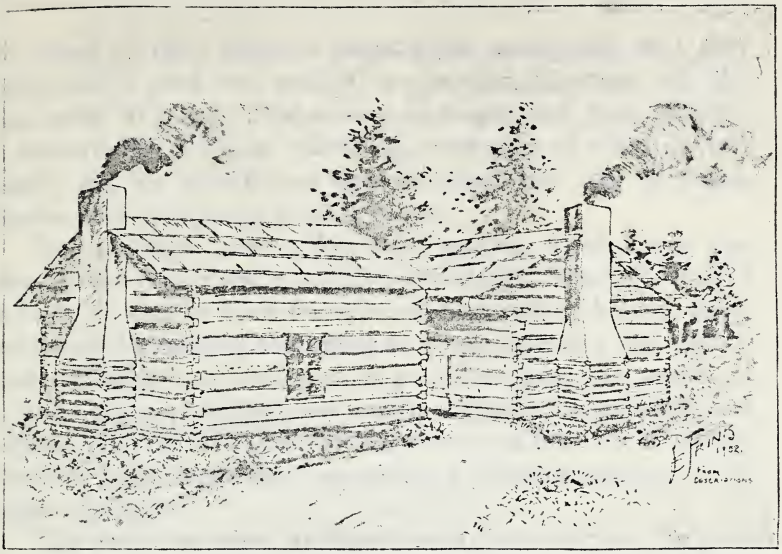
First, he was a powerful man physically; he was five feet ten and one-half inches in height, normal weight 200 pounds, stout but never obese, finely proportioned, compactly built, black hair, inclined to curl, Roman nose, long, strong upper lip, mouth wide, closing firmly and closely in handsome line. Complexion ruddy to dark, eyes dark brown, clear, penetrating and steady, but flashing with fire and power when excited or aroused, eyes once seen not to be forgotten. Head roundish, shapely and large, but proportioned to the strong, rather short neck.

His eyes and the whole contour of his face and every line of it, denoted native power, but these did not obliterate nor obscure the unmistakable expression of a kindly and even tender nature, which was there also. He shaved clean always and dressed plainly; never used tobacco in any way. He was not a total abstainer from strong drink, but he very rarely made use of it. He had a keen sense of justice. He demanded and gave fair play.

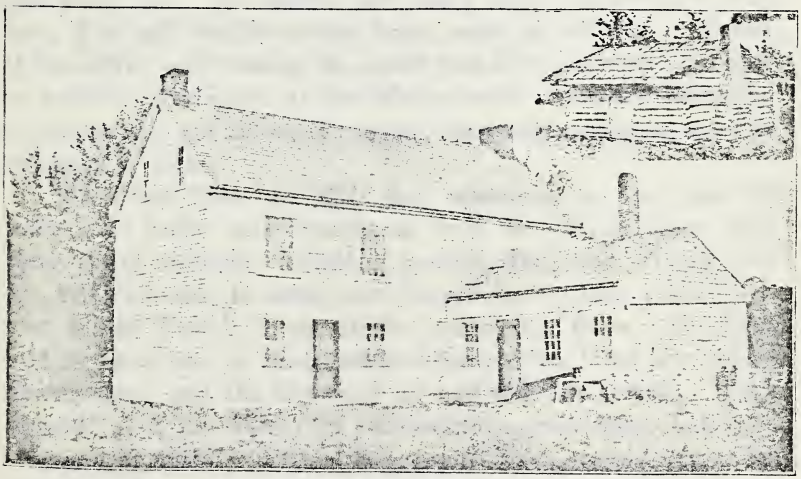
He was endowed with a wonderfully clear, strong, quick-acting judgment in all matters of business; this by actual, responsible, varied, wide and continuous experience and exercise, became trained to a point of astonishing accuracy. As I have just said, he created his live-stock business. Having created it, he knew it. He knew his business, and that is saying much of any man; he knew he knew it, hence that magnificent confidence in himself which nerved him to undertake and carry through enterprises that would have appalled ordinary men. The people learned to know that Ike Funk, as they familiarly called him, knew his business.

Many years ago, I was obliged to stop over night in Waynesville, DeWitt county. Mr. James Cook kindly entertained me for the night. During the evening we talked about Isaac Funk. Mr. Cook said: "Whenever I had any stock to sell, no matter who else wanted to buy it, I always waited for Mr. Funk to come round." "Why did you wait for Mr. Funk?" I asked. "Well, I'll tell you. We didn't always know what our stock was worth. We could not get market reports as we do now. When Ike Funk came, we learned that he always offered us a full fair market price for our stock, and he knew what our stock was worth just as soon as he saw it, and we always waited for him and sold it to him."

In 1884 or 1885, a reunion of the Funk family was held at the residence of Mr. Isaac Funk, Jr.; Senator David Davis was an honored guest. In the afternoon, the Senator having tired a little, probably, of the pastimes, was sitting on the porch apart from the rest of the company. I took a chair by him; falling into a reminiscent mood, he told me many things about Mr. Funk. Among others, this: "A good many dealers," Mr. Davis said, "when they had bought stock on short credit, that is until they could get it to market and get home again, would propose to keep



ISAAC FUNK'S SECOND RESIDENCE, 1832, AND ADDITION, 1836.



ISAAC FUNK'S THIRD RESIDENCE, 1841-42, ADDITION TO 2d CABIN, 1836.

the money of their clients a short while, mentioning that they could make a good turn with it, or something like that, but Mr. Funk never did that. Just as soon as he got back from Chicago, or wherever he had been with stock, every man of whom he had bought, got his money, and they all liked that way of doing, whether they said much about it or not."

Now put these three or four facts together, which I have just related; that Isaac Funk knew his business and the people believed he knew it; that he knew the value of stock of any kind at sight, and the people believed that; that he always offered a fair market price for stock, and as soon as he got home from the market, if he had bought of anybody on credit, the seller immediately and without any kind of excuse, got his money in full. Is it strange that such a man came near monopolizing the stock business of his region and time?

The truth was that Mr. Funk could buy about all the stock in the country, and he could buy it whether he had money or not. In those days of great scarcity of money and high rates of interest, his methods and known skill gave him a signal advantage over most men. No matter how many cattle he owned at any time, it is said that he always knew every one of them. If any of his cattle were missing, he could look over his herds and give an accurate description of the missing ones. If cattle belonging to anyone else got among his herds, he would recognize them as strangers at sight.

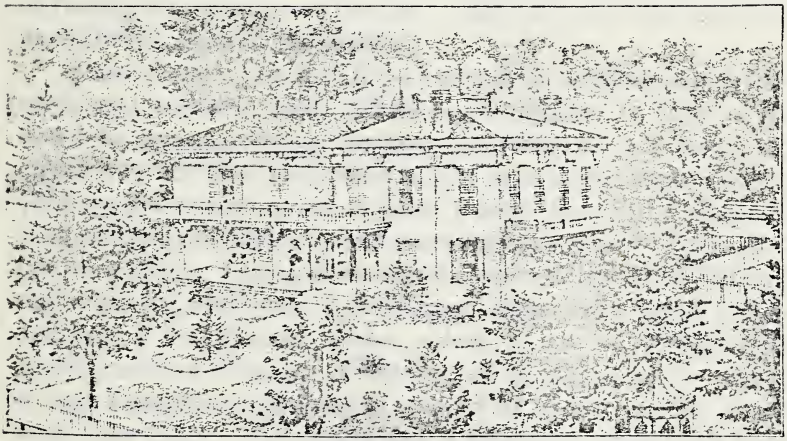
Mr. John Pitts, the other day, related to me that one fall when their cattle were brought in from the prairie, there were three steers missing. Thinking possibly they had strayed into Mr. Funk's herds, the father sent John, who was then a small boy, over to Mr. Funk's to see if the cattle were there. Mr. Pitts said he never saw so many cattle before. Mr. Funk was riding among them, and the boy went up and told his errand. "Look around," said Mr. Funk; "if you find them, take them, but don't take any of mine." After a long search Pitts spotted one of his steers; he knew it as well as he knew the family horse or cow, but he felt a little afraid of Mr. Funk and hesitated to point out the steer. However, he mustered his courage and went and told Mr. Funk he had found one of their steers. Mr. Funk came with him, and in the midst of the big herd they came across

the steer. The moment Mr. Funk sighted it he said, "It's not mine, take it." Another long search found the second steer. The boy was a little braver now, and he went again for Mr. Funk, and as soon as Mr. Funk saw the steer, although amongst hundreds of others, he said, "It's not mine, take it." But the third steer was never found.

Mr. Funk was not a man to be seen quietly standing by, while others passed him in the race for fortune. One season he was about ready to move a drove of 1,000 or more hogs to Chicago. Knowing of a similar drove likely soon to be moved by a party north of Lexington, he wrote the Lexington party saying that he, Mr. Funk, would not move his hogs at the same time the other was going to Chicago, if the other would send him word when he intended to go. This was done to avoid the inconvenience that might result from getting both herds to the slaughter-house at the same time. Mr. Funk received a rather curt and unsatisfactory answer, something like this: That Funk could move his hogs when he wanted to, and the other party would do the same. Without further parley, Mr Funk moved his hogs when he was ready. When he reached a point one evening about five miles this side of Joliet, he learned that the Lexington party was just a day's drive ahead of him. In an instant Mr. Funk decided upon his further movements.

Both droves were on the west side of the Des Plaines river. He rested that night; in the morning threw his drove across to the east side of the river, took a picked gang of men with three or four hundred of the lighter and longer legged hogs, drove all day, all the next night and part of the next day, arriving at Chicago and the slaughter-house almost a day's drive ahead of the man who said Funk could move his hogs when he wanted to. With his three or four hundred light hogs, he held the slaugter-house until the balance of his drove came up. The other party waited as patiently as he could outside of Chicago, until Mr. Funk was through. Great battles have often been won and history made by just such strategy.

Mr. Funk made a point of being very punctual in keeping his business engagements. He borrowed much money, and he was enabled to borrow it where other men could not, by his habits of paying punctually. Hon. David Davis frequently helped him in



ISAAC FUNK'S FOURTH RESIDENCE, 1864.

borrowing money at the east where Mr. Davis was acquainted, and he signed as surety for him, well knowing Mr. Funk's habitual punctuality in meeting and paying his debts.

At one time $3,000 was due the Ridgely Bank at Springfield on a certain day. Mr. Funk was in Chicago with a bunch of cattle which brought just about that amount. He started his son Jacob in the morning on a fleet horse from Chicago with the money, all in gold. Jacob rode that day, most of the night, all the next day, arriving at home at midnight. He aroused George, who took another good horse, was on his way by one o'clock, breakfasted where the town of Lincoln now is, and just at noon of the day the money was due, he walked into the bank and laid the $3,000 in gold on the counter.

I was about to say that Mr. Funk was an exceptionally industrious and energetic man. Those words applied to some of us would be very expressive, probably in many of our cases, too expressive; but they seem tame indeed and almost expressionless when applied to such a man as Isaac Funk. How will I illustrate or characterize the industry and energy of this man? From all I can learn of him, I think if we would go over to the Alton Railway and stand by while one of the biggest locomotives comes along, dragging a heavy train, under orders to get to Bloomington quickly, without stopping at Shirley, we would see in the action of that locomotive something to remind us of the way Mr. Funk went after things. He worked like a locomotive under full head of steam, and like the locomotive, if he did not get to the place he started for by night, he went ahead all the same till he got there.

It was most fortunate for Mr. Funk that he met and married Cassandra Sharp. No narrative of his life or his successes could be true or just which did not give large credit to his capable and faithful wife. He was impetuous, quick-tempered; sometimes when aroused by especially provocative conduct of others, his anger would burst forth with volcanic force and suddenness. The unrestrained and untamed forces of such a nature as his might have led him often to dangerous extremes. To his temperament, the temperament of his wife was a most happy counterpart. She was gentle, patient and even-tempered always. She had great influence over Mr. Funk, to sooth, to encourage and to please him. His

heart safely trusted in her. She was in sympathy with his ambitions. More quietly, but just as steadily, faithfully and effectively, she toiled to accomplish their aims. She carried her part well.

I have said that Mr. Funk was quick-tempered, we might say sometimes even violent tempered, but his anger always quickly spent itself. He was exceedingly ready to forgive an injury. He really loved and courted peace. He was of an affectionate nature; he loved his wife and children tenderly.

I must not forget to mention the interesting and curious fact that of all Mr. Funk's extensive business, he actually kept no accounts or books. It is almost incredible, but it is perfectly true, that he carried all his business, all its details, in his head. By what process or plan he was able to store all the details of his great business in his mind and call them forth at will when needed, I do not claim to understand or know. Probably he did not know how or by what process he did it himself; he was able to do it, and that is all that we know about it, and probably all that he knew. Many of you will be astonished when I state that in buying droves of cattle or hogs, he never took a paper and pencil in hand and calculated the weight and cost as we do—as everybody does. By some mental process, he reached the result, the weight, cost, etc., quickly and certainly. It is a fact that he has been known when on his drives to Chicago, to go by night and buy hogs of farmers, to be turned into his drove the next morning; and the process was just this and nothing more.

He would get down on his hands and knees while others drove the hogs from beneath a shed or from a straw-stack, in front of him, so that he could bring their outlines between him and the light of the horizon. As the hogs passed in line, he would count, weigh and estimate their value and buy them on the spot, so quick and certain was his judgment of their quality and his ability to calculate their value.

Isaac Funk was a religious man. He believed in his accountability to God. He believed in keeping His commandments, and that in keeping of them there is great reward. He believed in Jesus Christ as his Savior. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church; he joined that church organization with his wife in the winter of 1848, under the ministrations of Rev. John

S. Barger. He attended the services of the church quite regularly, and was always its liberal supporter.

Although he had, we might say, no advantages of schooling for himself, he coveted these for his children. He spared no expense to give them the best schooling. He believed in Christian education. He gave substantial proof of this belief by subscribing $10,000 to the endowment fund of the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington.

In politics, Mr. Funk was a Whig, while that party was in business. In 1840 that party elected him to the lower house of the State Legislature. When the Republican party was organized, he became a member of it. In a remarkable speech delivered in Bloomington by the Hon. Owen Lovejoy, just preceding the war time, Mr. Funk was converted to abolitionism. From that time forward, he hated slavery. In 1862, he was elected to the State Senate to fill the unexpired term of General Oglesby. He was re-elected for the full term. It was during this term, in the very darkest days of the war of the rebellion, when the fate of the Union was trembling in the balance, that he made his famous speech in favor of an appropriation for what was known as the Sanitary Commission. The opponents of the war had a majority in the senate. They were opposing every measure calculated to furnish aid and comfort to the armies of the Union.

To Mr. Funk their conduct seemed nothing less than treason to the country and government, which he loved with all the intensity of his strongly emotional nature. He was unaccustomed to speaking in public, but there came a time when, in his own words, he could sit in his seat no longer and see men trifling with the interests of his country. It was then he arose and hurled at the opposition that philippic of philippics, which will never be forgotten by those who heard it, and which is probably remembered today by more people than remember any other speech ever made in Illinois.*

NOTE: Speech of Isaac Funk in the Senate of Illinois, February, 1863, in favor of an appropriation to the Sanitary Commission.

Mr. Speaker: I can sit in my seat no longer and see such boys' play go on. These men are trifling with the best interests of the country. They should have ape's ears to set off their heads, as they are secessionists and traitors at heart.

Walking down the street a few days ago, I met one of our older prominent lawyers, a politician and widely read gentleman. It occurred to me to ask him as we met, which two speeches were, in his judgment, remembered by more people in Illinois than any other two speeches. He instantly replied: "Ike Funk's speech in the legislature in 1863 and Lincoln's replies to Douglas in the senatorial campaign in '58."

Isaac Funk made a great deal of money and gathered a great deal of property. Shall we honor him and his memory because

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I say that there are traitors and secessionists at heart in this Senate. Their actions prove it. Their gibes and laughter and cheers here nightly, when their speakers get up in this hall and denounce the war and administration, prove it.

I can sit here no longer and not tell these traitors what I think of them. And while so telling them, I am responsible for what I say. I stand upon my own bottom. I am ready to meet any man on this floor, in any manner, from a pin's point to the mouth of a cannon on this charge against these traitors. (Tremendous applause from the galleries.) I am an old man of sixty-five. I came to Illinois a poor boy. I have made a little something for myself and family. I pay $3,000 a year in taxes. Am willing to pay $6,000, aye $12,000 (Great cheering, the old gentleman bringing down his fist upon his desk with a blow that would knock down a bullock and causing the inkstand to bound half a dozen inches in the air); aye, I am willing to pay my whole fortune, and then give my life to save my country from these traitors who are seeking to destroy it. (Tremendous cheers and applause which the speaker could not subdue.)

Mr. Speaker, you must please excuse me. I could not sit longer in my seat and calmly listen to these traitors. My heart, that feels for my poor country, would not let me. My heart, that cries out for the lives of our brave volunteers in the field, that these traitors at home are destroying by the thousands, would not let me. My heart, that bleeds for the widows and orphans at home, would not let me. Yet these villians and traitors and secessionists in this Senate (striking his clinched fist on the desk with a blow that made the house ring again), are killing my neighbors' boys, now fighting in the field.

I dare to tell this to these traitors, to their faces, and that I am responsible for what I say to one or all of them. (Cheers.) Let them come on, right here. I am sixty-five years old and I have made up my mind to risk my life right here, on this floor, for my country.

These men sneered at Colonel Mack, a day or two ago. He is a little man; but I am a large man. I am ready to meet any of them in place of Colonel Mack. I am large enough for them and hold myself ready for them now and at any time. (Cheers from the galleries.)

of this alone? Is it to be accounted a virtue, simply to make money and get property? No. Money may be gotten, and is often, by methods far from virtuous, but it is true that the ability to make money by fair and honest means is to be accounted honorable.

I have lived in Bloomington nearly thirty-six years. In all that time it has been my pleasure to talk about Isaac Funk with those who knew him and his character, and his business operations; and in all that long time, I have not heard one of all the people

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Mr, Speaker, these traitors on this floor should be provided with hempen collars. They deserve them. They deserve—they deserve hanging, I say. (Raising his voice and violently striking his desk.) The country would be better off to string them up. I go for hanging them. and I dare tell them so, right here, to their traitors' faces. Traitors should be hung. It would be the salvation of the country to hang them. For that reason I would rejoice at it. (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. Speaker, I beg pardon of the gentlemen in the Senate who are not traitors, but true, loyal men, for what I have said. I only intend it and mean it for secessionists at heart. They are here in this Senate. I see them joke and smirk and grin at a true union man. But I defy them. I stand here ready for them and dare them to come on. (Great cheering.) What man with the heart of a patriot could stand this treason any longer? I have stood it long enough. I will stand it no longer. (Cheers.) I denounce these men and their aiders and abettors as rank traitors and secessionists. Hell itself could not spew out a more traitorous crew than some of the men who disgrace this legislature, this state and this country. For myself I protest and denounce their treasonable acts. I have voted against their measures, I will do so to the end. I will denounce them as long as God gives me breath, and I am ready to meet the traitors themselves here or anywhere, and fight them to the death. (Prolonged cheers and shouts.)

I said I paid $3,000 a year taxes. I do not say it to brag of it. It is my duty—yes, Mr. Speaker, my privilege to do it. But some of the traitors here, who are working night and day to get their miserable little bills and claims through the legislature, to take money out of the pockets of the people, are talking about high taxes. They are hypocrites as well as traitors. I heard some of them talking about high taxes in this way who do not pay $5 to support the government. I denounce them as hypocrites as well as traitors. (Cheers.)

The reason that they pretend to be afraid of high taxes is that they do not want to vote money for the relief of the soldiers. They want also to embarrass the government and stop the war. They want to aid the secessionists to conquer our boys in the field. They care about taxes! They

with whom I have talked, say that Isaac Funk ever got a dollar of him or anyone else, except by strictly fair and honorable means.

Nothing less than such a work as the creation of his great live-stock business and gathering his great landed estate would have occupied the splendid powers of this man. It was the work next to his hand; he did it heroically and on an heroic scale. His name will be remembered and honored for generations to come.

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are picayune men anyhow. They pay no taxes at all and never did, and never hope to, unless they can plunder the government. (Cheers.) This is an excuse of traitors.

Mr. Speaker, excuse me. I feel for my country in this, her hour of danger. I feel for her from the tips of my toes to the ends of my hair. That is the reason that I speak as I do. I cannot help it. I am bound to tell these men to their teeth what they are, and what the people, the true, loyal people, think of them.

Mr. Speaker, I have had my say. I am no speaker. This is the only speech I have made; and I do not know that it deserves to be called a speech. I could not sit here any longer and see these scoundrels and traitors work out their selfish schemes to destroy the union. They have my sentiments. Let them one and all make the most of them. I am ready to back up all I say, and I repeat it, to meet these traitors in any manner they may choose, from a pin's point to the mouth of a cannon.

Cassandra Sharp Funk.

MRS. CLARA FUNK HUMPHREYS.

Much has been said and written of the lives and hardships of the pioneer men of the west. We have been told, over and over again, of their never-ending work, of the privations they endured, of how much they did, and how little they had in return for all their expenditure of brain and muscle. We have been told that they lived, and worked, and died that we might reap the reward of their labors and hardships, while their lives were barren of the pleasures of life. We have been told this and we recognize it and bow our heads in reverence to their memory.

But we have not been told much of their wives, the companions of their hardships and privations and the ones upon whom, no doubt, the hardest trials of pioneer life often fell.

It is to the memory of one of these heroic women that we pay a token of respect to-day, by recalling a few of her many virtues and recounting some of the trials through which she passed.

Cassandra Sharp was born near Baltimore, Maryland, in 1801. She was of English descent, but of her early life little is known. Her family moved to Ohio in her girlhood and in 1824 they came by boat to Fort Clark, where Peoria is now located, and where she was living with her father when she first met Isaac Funk. Their courtship was not a long one, and they were married in 1826. They came on horseback to the little log cabin that was their first home.

There was great excitement and curiosity in the neighborhood about young Mrs. Isaac Funk. Her husband was well known as a young man who was making the most of his opportunities, and getting together the goods of this world very rapidly, and so there was much curiosity among their few neighbors to see and know the new comer.

It was at a camp meeting that she made her first social appearance, and she at once found an affectionate regard and love

in the hearts of all, that she held to the last day of her life, and which is still cherished for her memory.

In personal appearance Grandmother Funk was very attractive. She was rather small and slight, and had a wealth of glossy black hair, worn smoothly coiled.

Her eyes were most remarkable, one being brown and the other blue, with a droop of one eyelid that is seen in many of her children and grandchildren.

Her dresses were always simple. She usually wore calico ones at home, and soft woolen ones for important occasions, and never had nor wanted anything better. A friend once suggested to her that she should wear better clothes, that her husband could well afford to buy her a silk dress and should do so, but her reply to the suggestion was, that many of her neighbors and friends could not afford anything better than woolen gowns, and she did not wish to dress any better than her friends.

To her new home, so near to where we now are, she brought as her dower a bed, a spinning wheel and a cow. She came into a little log-house whose furniture was entirely home made. There was a big fire-place, with a crane; there were frying pans with legs to set down in the coals, and a Dutch oven, and that was about all there was for the bride to get acquainted with when she got off her horse at her own front door. Think of it, those among you who remember your own home coming! There were no rugs, no draperies, no bric-a-brac, no telephone, no steam heat, no porcelain bath tubs.

It is curious how that bride of seventy-three years ago managed to cook and plan and execute with so little to help her, it would seem almost like a magician's trick, nowadays, to produce from a "Dutch oven" the great loaves of bread that she brought forth.

They had an abundance of fresh vegetables and wild fruit in season, dried fruits and vegetables for winter, home-cured hams and bacon, fresh meat much of the time, plenty of poultry, and besides all this, there were deer and wild turkeys and plenty of prairie chickens and quail, and wild geese and ducks almost at their door. No doubt with their busy lives and much outdoor exercise they found the fare quite as good as we find our puddings and ice creams, our salads and fancy dishes.

It seems to us with our varied ways of amusing ourselves that the lives of the early settlers were devoid almost utterly of entertainment, but they had their own amusements seventy-five years ago, and probably their own social laws that were strictly observed. But the busy housewife had little opportunity for amusements, and her time was not devoted to pleasure seeking. The stern reality of providing food and clothing for a large and growing family, left little or no unoccupied time. It was not an easy task to prepare the meals for the busy little army of men. Between times little trifles like washing and ironing, baking and cleaning, spinning yarn, knitting stockings for all those busy feet, weaving and cloth making were attended to. Add to these cares the anxiety of getting ten children through all the ills that infancy is heir to, ten babies to carry safely through the dangers of croup and measles, whooping cough and chicken-pox, with no physician near, and only called in cases of extreme illness, so the mother in addition to being housekeeper, cook, laundress and seamstress, was nurse and physician, and was never too tired to give to her dear ones at all hours of day or night the tender care of a mother.

In the matter of education of the children, Isaac Funk could not have taken a very busy part. He of course, in a measure, assumed the responsibility of seeing that they should attend as good schools and colleges as the country afforded, but he was too entirely engaged in the affairs which he must needs manage and too frequently away from home to watch and guide the intellectual training of his children. This, too, fell to the mother's lot, as did also the other two parts of a proper education of the children, the development of the physical and moral sides of their natures. The moral training of boys, surrounded by numbers of men of all degrees of morality, from the fairly good, to the entirely bad, was not an easy task, and to combat such bad influence was no small part of her labor. Much of her thought and time must have been devoted in her endeavors to dispel the evil of such influence. How well she succeeded and to what extent her wishes were realized, the high moral standing—the unblemished integrity of her children bear witness. As to the physical development of those nine boys and one daughter we may judge how carefully she must have guarded and how wisely directed them, that they should have grown into such fine examples of sturdy and vigorous manhood and

womanhood. To whom, but their mother, can they be indebted for such blessings? Where has there been another family of so large a number possessed of such vigorous bodies that death's visit should be withheld for fifty-two years from their circle? For over a half century this family wheel was intact and unbroken, and we need look for no further proof of the fact that Cassandra Funk amid all her other duties, did not neglect this one, the proper care for the physical condition of her children.

The Christian Advocate was the first paper to come to them. It was a weekly publication, and three or four families read the same copy, and its arrival was an event that was looked forward to. It was in 1834 that this paper first reached them, so there must have been several years with no papers and few letters to bring thoughts to them from the outside world.

After a few years the first log house was destroyed by fire, and replaced by a larger and better one, and still later a frame house was built that was supposed to be a model of elegance and convenience, and in 1864 this was replaced by a more commodious and convenient home, in which the busy housewife lived but three weeks.

On one occasion Grandfather Funk took home to dinner with him an entire quarterly meeting. Three tables full of hungry delegates, and the housekeeper at home had not known they were coming. That was a situation that would have ruffled the composure of any but a pioneer woman. But the dinner that day was bountiful and good. Each table full of visitors found plenty of fresh dishes and food that was cooked just right and furnished to them in abundance.

In this experience, a hard one for any housekeeper, the sweet composure of Grandmother Funk was not disturbed by the anslaught of hungry people, for she had, and used, the executive ability necessary to manage it all satisfactorily.

At another time a camp meeting holding its meetings in the grove, had decided to break camp and go home because provisions were about exhausted. Grandfather Funk said he would contribute something toward continuing the meetings. He went home and killed a beef, returning with the entire carcass and quite a half wagon load of bread freshly baked, and you may imagine there was great wonder among the campers as to how Mrs. Funk had

had the time, the strength or the baking room to turn out such a quantity of bread at one time.

It was not entirely in the management of the household affairs that this dear woman excelled. Her husband was necessarily away from home much of the time and the management of the business affairs of the farm fell upon this very busy woman.

Besides all these cares, she was his counsellor and adviser in many of his business affairs, and there is no doubt but that much of the success of Isaac Funk is due to the wise discrimination and keen business instinct of his wife, she is certainly entitled to a large share of credit for his success.

Cassandra Funk exerted a marked influence over all with whom she came in contact. Towards none was this influence more noticeable than upon Grandfather Funk. His was a quick and impulsive nature, quick to excitement and temper, and amid the trials and harassing conditions that the turning of new country into old must bring, very often that temper would boil up and matters look very black indeed for any one who had offended. But a low word, or a soft touch from the wife's hand, calmed the troubled waters instantly. Her influence over him was wonderful.

She rarely punished her children and they rarely disobeyed her, a combination of conditions as unusual as desirable. As one of her sons said to me, they all looked upon their mother as their "very best friend." She was never too busy or too tired to come heartily into their plans and interests, and they brought them all to her, sure of a welcome.

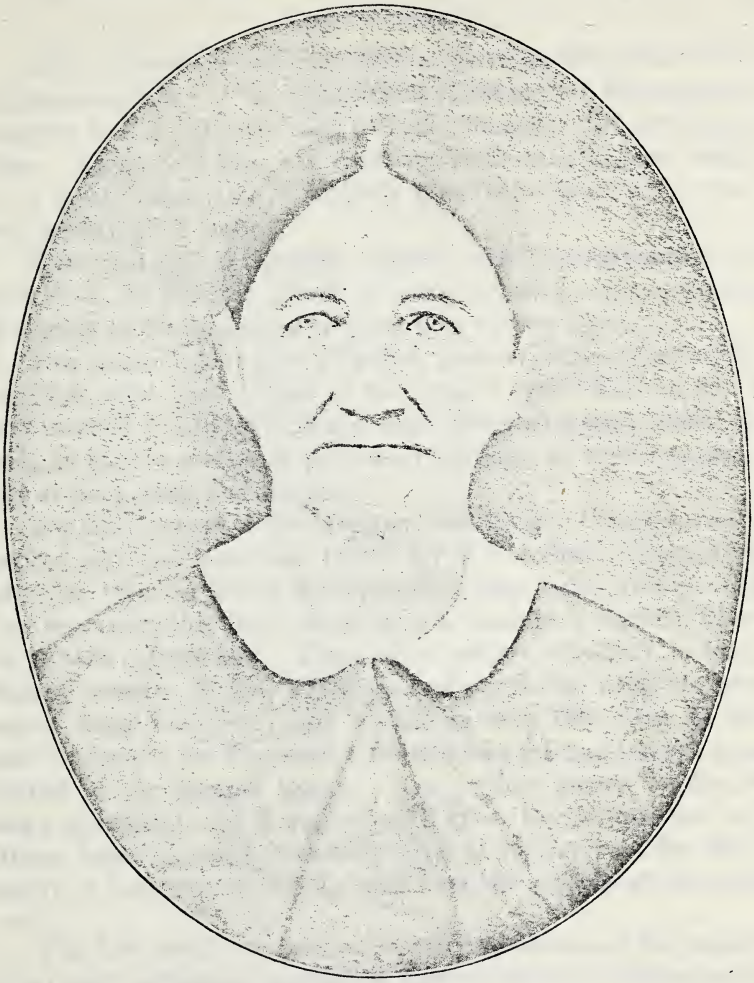
For over twenty years the home life here at the grove was unbroken, until the dreaded visitor came and took away with him, one of the sons, Adam, the second born. The other children grew up. The little mother was tired and broken, and old for her years, but happy and contented. Devoted and tender as always to the husband for whom and with whom she had struggled through the hard years, there was rest and comfort and plenty, in a beautiful new home, for her to take when the end came, but she was taken away from those she loved, at a time when it seemed she might rest from her labors, and enjoy what she had helped so materially to create, leaving the results of her toil and privations for the enjoyment of those whose happiness she ever cared for more than that of herself.

You all know how she died, not because she was ill, or suffering, or very old, but because that other one for whom she had lived for so many years, had gone before, and it was easier to close tired eyes and follow him than to face life alone. Cassandra Funk lived but four hours after her husband's death, and they were buried in the same grave. Surely it was a beautiful ending to a life as full of devotion for others as was hers. * * *

Perhaps much that has been said of the one woman's life, could also be said of many of the pioneer women of Illinois. They were strong, self-reliant, fearless, able to do, and honest women. Not that they had better hearts or more tender sympathies than we have today, but they lived for their families and homes, and had few, if any, trivial or useless amusements to take their time and thoughts. * * *

It has been an interesting study, this life of one woman of the early days. Her character is so clear cut and decisive, that as I have talked and written about her, I have seemed to see for myself, the grace and charm of this woman whom I never knew.

It is comforting to believe that this mother has watched the children through all the years of their grown up life, that she has seen the realization of some of her fondest hopes, and that somewhere, somehow, in some way, she knows and is content.



MRS. CASSANDRA SHARP FUNK.

Bloomington's Anniversary.

The Anniversary account which is given in this book of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the city of Bloomington, complete as it is, will no doubt be found unsatisfactory fifty years hence. People will then ask questions concerning matters which we of today understand so perfectly that they appear self-evident and unworthy of notice.

Historical and antiquarian subjects vary from generation to generation, the common places of today becoming curious objects of interest to the student or enquirer of a century hence.

Our accounts have been prepared, however, with conscientious regard to what local writers of the present deem likely to be of most interest to later generations, and interested students will, we hope, be able to gratify in part, their curiosity as to the happenings of the present and the past.

The early settlers of Bloomington and McLean County scarcely realized what an important future lay before them. They were intent on securing homes for themselves and their children, and were not aware that their efforts were to become of historic interest to later generations. These early settlers rehearsed to later settlers, accounts of their hardships and privations, while the new comers found themselves still contending with very many of the same difficulties, but they always realized that the first settlers were entitled to the greatest honors. New settlers poured in for at least a generation, and it was not until after the civil war that our citizens began to realize that the stories of the early settlers were worthy of preservation side by side with the records of the civil war.

The first public recognition of the importance of the annals of our early settlement, appears to have resulted in a large meeting at Royce Hall in the winter of 1866 or 1867, when an all day meeting was enjoyed, after the general style of Old Settler's gatherings.

Ex-Gov. John Moore was present, and was the leading spirit of the day. Rev. Peter Cartwright and other leading pioneers

were there, and the meeting was long remembered as a charming local event.

Public interest in our local history appears to date from about the time of this meeting, and one of the next results seems to have been the publication by Professor Duis of "The Good Old Times in McLean County," in 1874. This book never had a very extensive sale, but it is a perfect treasure house of McLean county's local history. As time goes on its value and importance grows, and future historians, and perhaps future genealogists will continue to gather the fruit of his labors.

Possibly the fact that this book consisted mainly of personal sketches and has failed to furnish much information in regard to towns and organizations, constituted the main reason why there was a growing demand for more local history, and prepared the way for the county history published as a money making scheme by a Chicago firm in 1879.

There is considerable literary rubbish in this book, but it also contains much of historic value. The history of quite a number of our townships is well written, among which may be mentioned the history of Bloomington and Normal by Mr. J. H. Burnham. Mr. Burnham published an edition of three hundred copies of this part of the book, and it is understood that the county volume had a much larger sale. In Mr. Burnham's sketch of the history of the town of Bloomington, he suggested the idea that July 4, 1881, it might be well for the inhabitants of the township to hold a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the sale of lots in the new town, then a paper town, but named Bloomington before it was started.

At the proper time, July 4, 1881,* this event was duly celebrated, by a very large and enthusiastic audience, in Franklin Square, when the national anniversary and Bloomington's anniversary were very properly celebrated.

Old settlers' picnics and various old settlers' gatherings began to grow popular all over McLean county about this time and March 12, 1892, the McLean County Historical Society was organized, as stated in the preface to Volume I., of its publications.

NOTE.—The only report of this celebration now in print is that published in the Bloomington Daily Pantagraph of July 5, 1881. The Pantagraph published on the morning of July 4, 1881, a very valuable historical number. Several important historical facts can there be found. They are actually of enough historic value to justify their future publication by the McLean County Historical Society.

It is a matter of pride to the people of McLean county that this society has so well carried on the work of gathering and publishing the county's local history.

Imperfect as its work may have been, it has rescued from oblivion many and many an interesting historical fact and has been an important instrument in perpetuating many local and family traditions which would otherwise have been lost forever.

One of Bloomington's anniversaries, the seventy-fifth anniversary of the first settlement of the county of McLean, of Blooming Grove, and of Bloomington township, was inaugurated and carried forward by the McLean County Historical Society, September 1, 1898, and its proceedings published in Volume I, of the society's transactions in 1899.

This brings us down to a period when there were living few indeed, but still some of the early pioneers, and when the vast majority of our inhabitants were either new comers with few opportunities to hear the stories of the first settlers, or else children or grandchildren of the first generation, and the demand for our early local history appeared to be growing faster than ever before.

Under these circumstances, therefore, it need not be surprising to be told that as the time approached for the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the beautiful city of Bloomington, the legitimate outgrowth of the village of the same name, that the public interest in the proposed celebration far exceeded that of any previous event of this character.

A committee of the McLean County Historical Society consisting of Mr. George P. Davis, President; Mr. E. M. Prince, secretary; and Mr. J. H. Burnham, chairman of the executive committee, waited on the Bloomington city council in the fall of 1900, and suggested the propriety of an official celebration of the fiftieth anniversary; to take place at an appropriate date, as near as possible to the actual anniversary. The council appointed a committee of seven, one alderman from each ward, to meet with the committee of the Historical Society, and this committee made a report to the council favoring such a celebration as was suggested, and was made a joint committeee together with the committee of the Historical Society, with power to act.

At a later date a sub-committee consisting of Alderman Bowman of the fourth ward, Alderman O'Neill of the fifth ward, and

Alderman Pitts of the Sixth ward, with Messrs. Burnham and Prince perfected and carried out, with occasional reports to the council, the celebration which is described at full length in this book.

When it is considered that the proceedings as carried out, included forenoon exercises by all the children of the city, from both public and private schools; an afternoon parade and public exercises at Franklin Park; together with a full evening's programme at the Coliseum, it will be understood, after a careful consideration and study of the day's performance, that almost, if not quite, the entire population of Bloomington became heartily interested in taking some part in the events of the anniversary day.

It has seldom perhaps, never happened, at least not since Bloomington became a fair sized city, that our people have given such a cheerful welcome to any public event. It was an occasion when no feelings of religious or party differences came anywhere near the surface, and when there was one universal display of civic and local pride and patriotism.

Those who took part in the several days of previous preparation found these efforts a labor of almost pure delight. Never was there beheld in Bloomington such a cheerful and happy acquiescence in the requirements of the different committees, and as Nature vouchsafed her very pleasantest and most perfect of May days, nothing appeared wanting to cause the day to pass off to the most entire satisfacton of the public, and of the various committees of all work, and not a single accident occurred to mar the event.

This affair has proved that the McLean County Historical Society, which has assisted in carrying out anniversary celebrations in different parts of the county, has a warm place in the affections of both young and old. It is in fact almost the only historical event which has taken any hold on the hearts of the young, but whoever witnessed the children's share of these exercises, must have been forcibly impressed with the idea that the coming generation begins to understand the objects aimed at by this society and will cherish high hopes that the coming generation or its descendants, will be better prepared to appreciate and celebrate the city's one hundredth anniversary in 1950, than were the people who planned and carried out its fiftieth anniversary in 1900.

Half a Century.

BLOOMINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION PROVES AN ENORMOUS SUCCESS—MUSIC, MARCHING AND ORATORY—CRADLED FIFTY YEARS AGO—CENTRAL ILLINOIS COMES TO THE PARTY OF THE QUEEN CITY OF THE PRAIRIES — NATURE IS ALL SMILES.

(From Daily Bulletin, Thursday, May 10, 1900.)

The bloom of dawn had just tinted this workaday world of ours and, while sleep was turning restless on the eyes of most of Bloomington's inhabitants, the first onslaught of out-of-town visitors to assist in the semi-centennial celebration of the incorporation of the city commenced. From the rise of his majesty the sun, until long past noon the crowds poured in, until such a throng as Bloomington has seldom seen gathered upon the streets. The city was all ready to receive them, and never before presented such an attractive appearance. Through all the by-ways and channels surged the thousands like a torrent unleashed. Red, white and blue, the trinity that appeals to every creed, was everywhere. Brave pennants were flung to every daring breeze, the blue sky was laced with crimson banners. On every building was emblazoned loyal stars of blue and white. For many hours men have worked twining the garlands and festoons for the people's holiday. When first the sun broke through the edge of the horizon far to the east, his beams smiling through a bank of clouds, glistened upon the starry flag floating from the lofty staff upon the court house. Then down through the highways of the city, the same regal colors, flaunting from every point, paled his faltering light. Nearly all night men had worked preparing the exhibition of color and when the people woke, behold! the city had bourgeoned and blossomed in a night. Clearer, brighter, more radiant than all the glorious banner of the new republic, shipped into the breeze, the stars and stripes, under whose folds all find the blessings of a wider freedom and a nobler faith.

There was a fluttering of hearts for fear that the day might not be perfect. Centennial day without sunlight would be like a Christmas plum pudding without plums. To what avail all the creations of the milliner and modiste among the fair sex if the weather was not propitious? What matter if the livery was spic and span and "Jeems" buttons burnished to the glittering point if rain fell? The sleek satin coat of the thoroughbred would look like a common affair if the clouds emptied their contents as freely as earlier in the week and the day would have been a dismal failure. But this dark spectacle was not to be done. One of May's rarest and most glorious days has been holding high carnival all over the sun-kissed city. The sky stretched like a huge inverted bowl of violets and out to Miller park the waves on the lake dimpled and simpled as the riotous breeze flittered across, roping here and there with pearls. The smoke of

the city rose straight in the air, leaving the breathing places crisp and fresh and bracing. The boulevards stretched away like great unwound yellow ribbons picot edged with green, while the trees on each side, just assuming their new verdure, tossed their leafy caps in the sunshine and seemed to ask, "Is it not indeed an Evergreen City?"

As the morning hours passed the streets began to blossom into life and action, pouring a living stream of chattering humanity and proudly stepping horses into the broad expanses of the down town streets. Parasols as fragile as butterfly's wings heightened the effects of starry eyes and fetching costumes. The fair promenaders looked like an ever-changing garden of tropical bloom. Flowers and nodding plumes, bright eyes and rosy cheeks, made up a scene truly enough to fascinate an anchorite. When the parade formed throngs of people stood at every corner and lined every sidewalk to see them pass. Others lounged on the grass on the court house lawn. The square looked like a gay parterre of flowers and bright the sun shone o'er fair women and brave men.

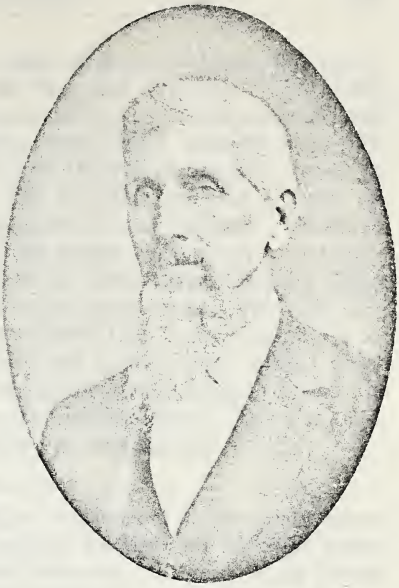
Out at Miller park the thousands wended their way this afternoon and an idyllic scene appeared before the eye. The gaze might wander where it would, meeting a barrier more stern than trembling leaves. Broad lawns led to shady vistas or to glimpses of the beautiful lake having its beaches but a few hundred yards away. Across the green expanse the thousands walked. Here and there rustic bridges spanned some leafy ravine, while lofty oaks lifted their foliage against the sky and threw wavering shadows below, their swaying outlines seeming to move in rhythm with the sighing wind. Overhead was the blue of May, flecked with white clouds that but enhanced its purity. As they moved fitfully before the breeze their changing forms were unrolled in endless panorama that was faithfully reflected in the bosom of the lake below.

In the glad rejoicings of the day thoughts of the pioneers of fifty years ago were not forgotten. It was such a day as should bring all into sympathetic harmony with its golden memories, which time, so far from demolishing, beautifully enhances and sentimentally ennobles. Tender feelings mingling with pride and a local sense of gratitude inspire a lofty frame of mind, and only those sordidly selfish could be insensible on a day such as this, set apart as a memorial to the devoted manhood of early days and of sacrifices made for the city's weal.

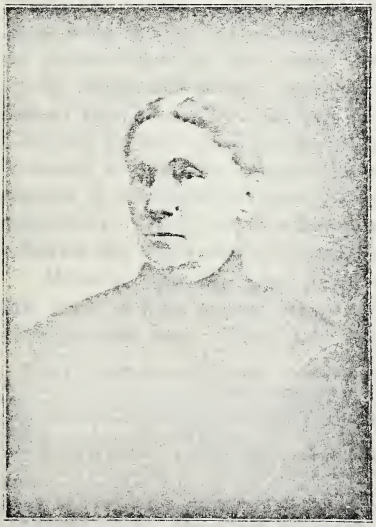
THE DECORATIONS.

Swathed in red, white and blue, the sun reflected the national colors from every nook and corner of the city of Bloomington. In the residence districts great banners and Old Glory were to be seen everywhere flapping in the gentle wind that lolled at intervals all day, strongly, but in pleasing contrast with the highly verdant foliage. The lawns of the city with early morning dew sparkled like the Emerald isle as told in story. The picture was not one to be forgotten. Erect with fifty years of age Bloomington was as bright and fresh as ever. The old city took on a new lease of life today—she was born again and the emblems of red, white and blue were the new swaddling clothes.

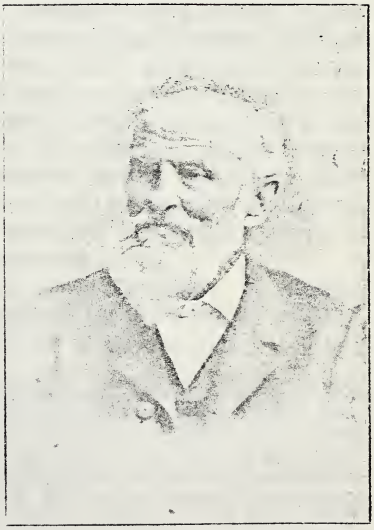
MRS. WILLIAM J. RHODES.



WILLIAM J. RHODES.



MRS. MARTHA HORR.



FRANKLIN K. PHOENIX.

Typical of the Evergreen City boughs of green and bits and sprays of evergreen were liberally used with flags and streamers. The court-house was embellished and clever conceits were used in the shape of long ropes wound with the national colors, from which dangled flags and bright bunting. They were stretched from the top of the court house to the big stone posts at each corner. The city hall was like a bower of beauty garnished as it was by the inhabitants of that building. The mayor's office on Main street was one of the gayest little places in the city. The fire department boys fixing the place up. The legend "Mayor's Office 1900" was painted in big letters across the front street. The first city council house, the little shoe shop at 207 South Main street, was loaded so with streamers that its old, faded walls and outlines were shaded from view. The merchants on the south side of the square adopted a style of uniformity in their display of bunting that was attractive. All of the big buildings displayed colors and decorations in keeping with the day.

THE MORNING.

Early in the day the crowds began to assemble in the down town streets, and when the band concerts began at 8 o'clock on the court house square by Dillon's and De Molay bands there was a surging, happy crowd of girls and grown people. All of the school girls carried flags and wore buttons * and the brightest of faces. The Goodman band of Decatur arrived early and the Champaign band came in at 9 o'clock, when they took up the concert work.

But of all things, the school boys' parade was easily the event that capped the climax. Almost 3,000 "tads," wearing broad grins and waving flags, were in line. It was great! The youths giggled, laughed and had the greatest sport in the world. They kept a fairly good line, but in the shuffle the parade parted, there being a little misunderstanding about the line of march among those who participated, but they brought up at the Coliseum in good time for the exercises. The long line of little fellows wriggled through the streets like a mammoth serpent and turned fancy corners in a fashion that would have done credit to most any military organization. There wasn't a boy in the whole line who was not willing to celebrate the city's semi-centennial at least once a year.

What a sight the 3,000 children was at the Coliseum! To describe that mass of little human beings, all tucked in the big building, would be an impossible task. Every boy and girl had a flag and they waved and

*This reference to buttons should be made a little more plain. The city council, on recommendation of the Committee on Arrangements ordered 3,500 "stick pin" buttons, one of which was furnished each school child in the city, of whom at least 2,500 were present in the Coliseum, which was crowded to its utmost capacity, and which was at that date the largest hall ever constructed in Bloomington. Each boy and girl also carried and waved a small flag, and as both flag and button became the property of the children, their enthusiasm of course found something definite and tangible on which to expend itself. The account given above does not describe this enthusiasm as fully as could be wished. We give a fac-simile as near as possible of this button displayed by the children. The children were urged by Mr. J. H. Burnham, chairman of the meeting, to preserve the buttons for future use, and advised to see how many of them would be ready to be exhibited fifty years hence.

cheered and chatted to their heart's content. Of the excellence of the programme too much cannot be said. It was a success from start to finish and there was not one in the big room who did not enjoy the hour spent there. The exercises began at a little past 10:30 and were carried out as given elsewhere. Dr. Richard Edwards, long the foremost educator in the state, delivered the address—a talk particularly adaptable to the children. In part he spoke as follows:

"Boys and Girls—I am glad to see you all here and all having a good time, but before I attempt to talk I want to make a bargain with you. Will you all agree to that?" A thousand cries of "yes" responded. "Well," continued the speaker, "I will make a short talk if you agree to be still." This proposition met the assent of the 3,000 boys and girls, all waving flags that filled to the structure. Continuing, Dr. Edwards said:

"This great array of bright faces I am glad to see. You ought to have a good time, for this life, I am afraid, would not be very enjoyable if we didn't have a little fun now and then and enjoy ourselves. We are here today to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the city of Bloomington which is most fitting, for Bloomington is known far and wide as a center of education. It is a city of culture and schools. What I tell you are facts about school life in the early days in this country and they are in strong contrast with the modern schools which you yourselves enjoy now. All education was at first monotonous and formal; poetry was recited as though it were emanating from a talking machine, but out of that early prosiness grew better methods and the world is really the gainer by those primitive usages. Education was unattractive then, and it was severe, but gradually better and brighter things were added and it took on an additional interest besides the mere drudgery of the first schools. The next step in school work was when each pupil tried to make his teacher believe that he was working hard by studying aloud. Just think of it, a whole room full of boys and girls talking and some shouting at the top of their voices. The fellow or boy who made the most noise was supposed to be studying the hardest. But that was sent to oblivion and better and truer methods have succeeded. My second school experience was in northern Ohio, where the expenses were furnished partly by private subscription and the rest from the public funds. The little school was built of logs, the chinks were many and wide open, and when it was cold you would either freeze or roast. The desks were made by driving sticks in the wall with crooks on the end of them and then resting boards on the knots. All pupils then faced the wall, and when they got up to recite it was necessary for them to swing their legs over the high board seat on which they sat. Yet let me tell you, boys and girls, in these schools rugged men and true women were tutored and they have given to the country its greatest men, its greatest soldiers and heroes who have died on the field of battle. Will the men and women of the future do as much for their country? It depends on you boys and girls before me. You are the presidents and great people of the coming generations, and I hope

LEWIS B. THOMAS,
Mayor of Bloomington.

that you will prepare well for the task and that the coming year in school will be a successful and profitable one."

At the conclusion of the speech the crowd went into exercises. The recitation by Miss Charlotte Clay Probasco and the song by Miss Kate Eloise Donahue were the best features on the programme.

By noon all who had a chance to assist in the morning parade were tired. But in Bloomington people don't have to go hungry. Eating houses, hotels and restaurants had made preparations to care for the crowd and although there was considerable commotion, the big crowds were fed. By afternoon many of the people from the surrounding towns had arrived and were ready for the afternoon parade and sports at the park. The baseball fans divided their attention between the celebration and the ball game between Peoria and Bloomington, which was played at the fair grounds.

AFTERNOON.

As the mammoth marching column swung into line this afternoon at 2 o'clock to the music of five bands, the biggest event of the day was inaugurated. For an hour or more previously the marchers, the marshals and all who were to participate, were hurrying and massing at the places assigned them. The crowd was so big that it was unwieldly and the effort was a mighty one to get all in line. Of the ten living ex-mayors of the city eight were in the parade this afternoon, and some of them are very venerable men, too. For a man to be mayor of the city of Bloomington is an assurance as a general rule that he will be long lived and active. Within the city limits there are four of the early mayors of the city, all active and still engaged in business. Ex-Mayor J. R. Mason would have been glad to be here, but sickness prevented. Several of the old ladies, the pioneer mothers and school teachers, sat as proudly as Queen Victoria in their carriages and apparently enjoyed the homage which was paid to them. John Dawson and Mr. Adam Guthrie were also installed in a carriage. Abram Brokaw tried to get out of a ride this morning by suggesting that he was sick, and that someone ought to fill his place. A number of interesting old people and the city officers distinguished themselves by occupying seats at the head of the pageant. The Modern Woodmen made a magnificent showing from the number of men represented. The degree team wore natty uniforms. Troop B and Company D, Custer Company, visiting U. R. K. P. company from Champaign, and one or two other uniformed organizations were the crack marchers in the parade and the star features. The floats in the German section were attractive and highly artistic. Both the German-American and the Irish-American sections were wonders on account of their size. Estimates of the number who marched were all the way from 3,000 to 4,500. It was a great parade anyway and the visiting bands from Decatur, Pekin and Champaign covered themselves with glory and poured out throbbing and inspiring music for the marchers. As the column

swung round the corners, the puffs of music made great harmony raise from the city while the parade was in progress. Astride many handsome horses, Chief Marshal Dr. Hallett and his aids led the columns of marchers.

At Miller Park the drills, the best features of the day were given. The proficiency to which all three Bloomington companies had attained was surprising. The Knights of Pythias uniformed companies, headed by Major Bertoni, executed some of the best work ever seen in the city of Bloomington. With the same soldierly bearing Major Bertoni met the Champaign visitors when they arrived in this city from Champaign in the morning, when he escorted them to the Windsor hotel. The temperature was perfect for the park exercises beginning at 3 o'clock, and a mighty throng of people was gathered there. The mounted drill by Troop B was something new to most of the spectators and it was watched with more than ordinary interest. Hon. John A. Sterling delivered the speech of the afternoon at the park, his subject being "A Factor in Our City's Prosperity." At frequent intervals his remarks were applauded. He spoke as follows:

*ADDRESS BY HON. JOHN A. STERLING.

"A half century has come and gone since our community became a city. Fifty years is far beyond the average life of man. A flash in the life of an individual is as half a century in the life of a city. The duration of a municipality suggests eternity. Bloomington is still in its infancy, and when those who take our place shall meet in this grove to celebrate the century anniversary of our city it will still be in its infancy.

"I do not mean to say that cities do not die. They have their enemies; there are those destructive elements which destroy a community as well as the individual. Flame and flood, war and pestilence, vandalism and municipal corruption, have in all times and countries wielded their influences to the destruction of splendid cities. But as a matter of course, cities do not pass away. With healthful commerce and society, cities may live and grow through all time.

"A city is an organized, living entity. The trade and commerce within itself and surrounding community are the blood of its existence. Without them it cannot endure. Its thoroughfares and highways and railroads are the veins and arteries that carry to and fro the corpuscles that feed its life, and much depends upon the energy and enterprise of the city itself in making these means of access and these lines of commerce efficient and inviting.

*John A. Sterling was born on his father's farm in McLean county; was educated in the public schools and at the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he graduated in the class of 1881; taught school two years, was admitted to the bar in 1884 and immediately took rank as one of the ablest lawyers in the circuit. He has served as chairman of the Republican County Central committee and member at large of the State Central committee. Was states attorney from 1892 to 1896 and is a member of the fifty-eighth congress.

"The society of a city is the purifying element in its system. The individual members of a community have much to do with healthful growth and prosperity. To the individual one must look to analyze the whole. If the inhabitants are enterprising and energetic, if they have due regard for law and society, if they seek to maintain the purity of the government and management of the city, then they have done what the individual can do to perpetuate the growth and life of the community in which they live.

"It is said that the soil of the Mississippi valley is the most fertile in the world. It is a rich, productive alluvium; it is made up of thousands of disintegrating elements. The granite of the Rocky Mountains, and the rocks of the Alleghanies have in the countless ages of the past contributed their share to the formation of this soil. The plains of Kansas and Nebraska, the hills of Ohio and Pennsylvania, the prairies of Minnesota and the Dakotas have all combined to contribute along this great Father of Waters their due proportion of fertility and energy and this combination of elements have produced the variety of natural virtues which is not exceeded in any part of the world.

"The same may be said about our population. From all parts of Christendom the peoples have gathered here to build a city that will endure. The Germans have come with their high sense of honesty, industry and stability; Sweden has contributed of her home-loving people with all the active virtues of the Scandinavian; England, Ireland and Scotland have sent their people and they have contributed their intelligence, energy and rugged honesty to the virtues of our city. All of these splendid elements have combined to make up that society which we enjoy today. The blood of all these splendid civilizations are mingled in the veins of our people, and with this rich alluvium collected from all the better civilizations of the world and deposited in our midst, we have that foundation for a city which must endure for generations to come. On it is built the structure of our society, and from it flows the many virtues of our splendid institutions. These various elements combined make us purely American, for America is but the resultant of much that is good and of but little that is bad in the other peoples of the world.

"From this great diversity of ideas, of government, religion and society, we may choose the best, and from the best those institutions which we so loyally love and cherish we have erected here. Our government, our homes, our churches, our schools and our society are the inherited ideas of the better civilizations of the earth.

"I think it is a common characteristic of our people to speak of, and regard with much respect and pride our local institutions; and we certainly indulge in no self-flattery in doing so. We judge these things largely by comparison and it is said that our city has more beautiful, orderly and happy homes to the number of its population than any other city in the west. Our schools are justly the pride of every citizen. Through them education becomes the common property of all. In this the

rich man's son is no richer than the poor man's son. They level all distinction and in them the youth of our city soon learn that merit is the law that governs the success of all things. The community that manifests a high appreciation of its public schools is building wisely for the future. Statistics show that in the percentage of attendance Bloomington stands in the first rank of cities of its kind. It is pre-eminently a city of churches. As the city has grown, so have they grown in their power and influence. Almost every creed and denomination is represented in our population and each individual may worship God in his own way and according to the dictates of his own conscience. Wherever this splendid prerogative is vouchsafed the citizen, religious freedom is an important factor in the preservation of our institutions.

"There is one element, however, at work among the civilizing and purifying influences in our city of which I wish to speak, and in which this audience may be more immediately interested than any other; and an element, too, which is often but little counted on by the careless observer as a factor for good. I refer to the secret, civic and military orders that have been organized and maintained in our midst. These institutions have kept pace with the progress of the city. Their whole purpose is to advance and improve the condition of society. By relieving distress they have promoted the general welfare. By strict requirements of membership they have induced a higher standard of citizenship among the young men of our city. By their teaching, they have inculcated a higher sense of charity, benevolence and patriotism among the people. By example they have helped to purify society, and by constant, ceaseless endeavor to a righteous end, they have contributed much to the material and moral growth of the city.

"I doubt if many people pause to consider the extent to which the influences of these institutions permeate society and the homes of the community. That we may have a more definite idea of their influence, let us review briefly the beginning and growth of some of the more important ones.

"The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons have established the following principal and auxiliary lodges:

"1. Bloomington Lodge No. 43, chartered October 6, 1847, and now has a membership of 172.

"2. Wade Barney Lodge No. 512, chartered October 3, 1866, and now has a membership of 118.

"3. Mozart Lodge No. 656 (German), chartered October 4, 1870, and now has a membership of 67.

"4. Bloomington Chapter No. 26, Royal Arch Masons. Organized in 1870. Membership at present 165.

"5. Bloomington Council No. 43, Royal and Select Masters. Organized in 1899. And now has a membership of 120.

CITY COUNCIL OF BLOOMINGTON.

1. W. T. Shorthose. 2. Geo. Freese.
3. J. C. Means. 4. J. W. Rodgers. 5. R. O. Graham. 6. F. C. Smith.
7. W. H. Kerrick. 8. E. O'Connell. 9. D. M. O'Neil. 10. Ed. Holland.
11. C. W. Miller. 12. J. F. Hulva. 13. Paul Finnan. 14. W. P. Bolles.

"6. DeMolay Commandery No. 24, Knights Templar. Organized in 1868. Membership at present 132.

"7. Bloomington Chapter No. 50, Order of the Eastern Star. Organized in 1870. Membership 200. Making a total of 1,000 members of the Masonic order and its adjuncts in this city.

"The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, organized:

"1. Remembrance Lodge No. 77. Chartered September 24, 1850, and at present has a membership of 196.

"2. Evergreen City Lodge No. 265. Now has a membership of 138.

"3. Uhland Lodge No. 305 (German.) Organized in 1868, now has a membership of 108.

"4. Bloomington Lodge No. 400. Organized December, 1887. Now has a membership of 223.

"5. Bethlehem Lodge of Rebekahs No. 32. Organized in 1871. Present membership 138.

"6. Abraham Lincoln Lodge of Rebekahs No. 85 (German.) Organized in 1880. And present membership 106.

"7. Ridgely Canton No. 9, of the Patriarchs Militant. Organized in 1890. Now has a membership of 85.

"8. McLean Encampment No. 29. Organized in 1895. Present membership 100. Making a total membership of principal and auxiliary lodges Odd Fellows in our city, 1,175.

"The Improved Order of Red Men have organized the following tribes:

"1. Shabbona Tribe No. 18. Organized in 1880. Present membership 125.

"2. Tonawanda Tribe No. 48. Organized in 1886. Now has a membership of 60.

"3. Osceola Tribe No. 28 (German.) Organized in 1883. Present membership 100.

"4. Lodge Minnehaha No. 1, of the Degree of Pocahontas. Organized in 1889. Present membership 83. Making a total membership in this order and auxiliary degrees of 368.

"1. The Grand Army of the Republic established William T. Sherman Post No. 146, in July 1882, and its present membership is 270.

"2. William T. Sherman Relief Corps No. 7, was chartered in 1884 and its present membership is 112.

"3. Richard J. Oglesby Circle was organized in 1899 and its present membership is 57. Making the local membership of this order and its auxiliary lodges 439.

"The Ancient Order of Hibernians established Division No. 1 in 1876 and its membership is now 80. Division No. 2 in 1881 and its membership is 85. A total of 165 members.

"The Knights of Pythias have organized:

"1. Damon Lodge No. 10. Chartered June 10, 1870. Now has a membership of 112.

"2. Pythias Lodge No. 161. Organized 1886. Now has a membership of 200.

"3. Jesse Fell Lodge No. 164. Organized in 1886. Now has a membership of 200.

"4. Blucher Lodge No. 76. Organized in 1888. And its present membership is 60.

"5. Bloomington Lodge No. 545. Organized in 1896. Its present membership is 80. Total number of members 652.

"The National Union organized:

"Bloomington Council No. 148, April 11, 1885, and it now has a membership of 262.

"The Modern Woodmen of America have:

"1. Blooming Grove Camp No. 110. Chartered in July, 1885. Present membership 530.

"2. Invincible Camp No. 1021. Organized in 1889. Present membership 630.

"3. Souvenir Camp No. 4463. organized in January 1897. Present membership 125. New Home Camp No. —. Organized in 1898. Present membership 100.

"The Royal Neighbors of America have organized:

"1. Evergreen Camp No. 190. Established in 1896. Present membership 200.

"2. Bloomington Camp No. 637. Chartered in 1897. Membership 100.

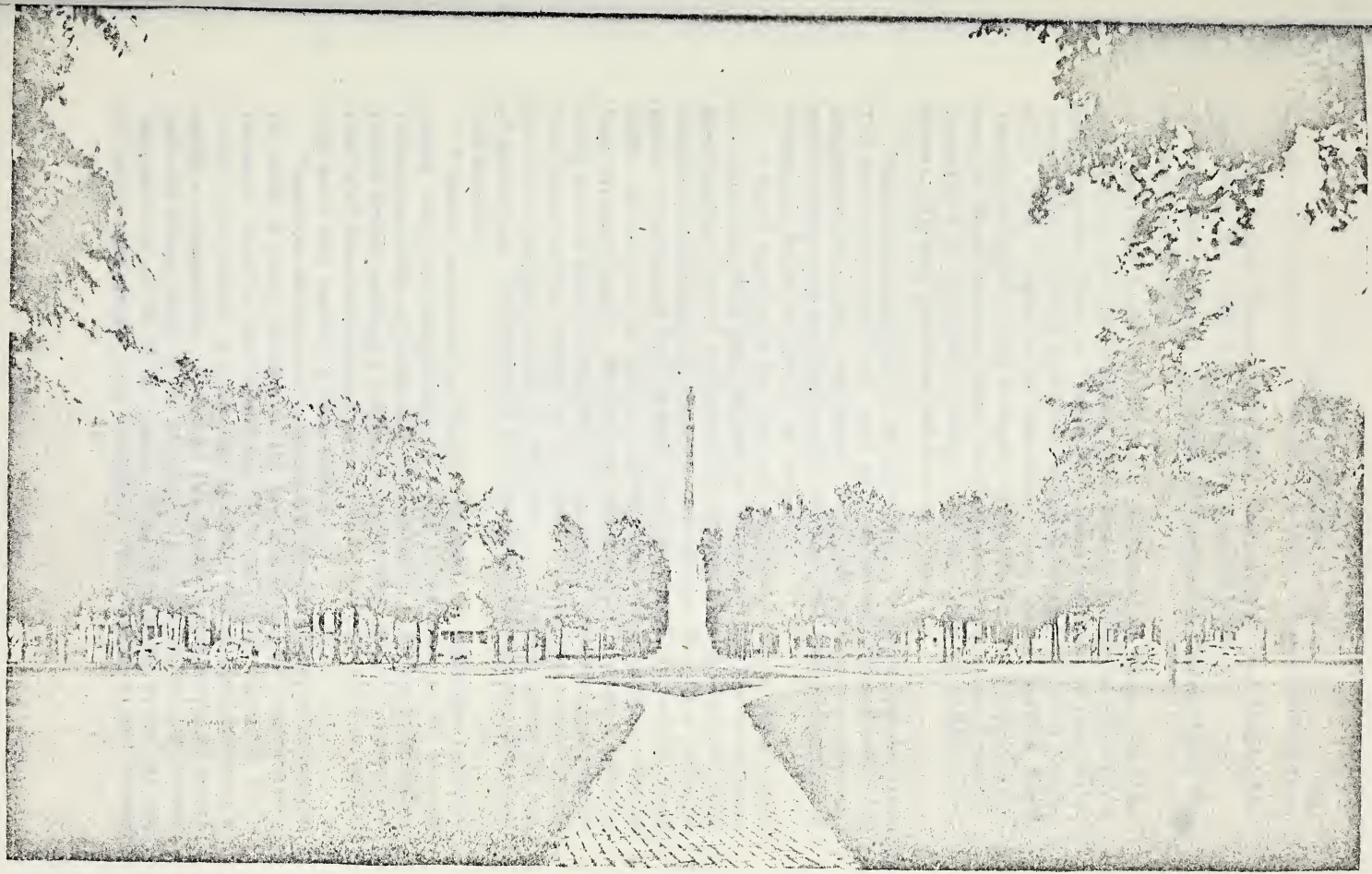
"3. Dewey Camp. Chartered in 1899. Present membership 60. So that the Modern Woodmen and adjunct lodges have a total membership of 1,440.

"The Order of United American Mechanics chartered Illinois Council No. 9, April 27, 1898, and its membership now is 100.

"In addition to those that I have specially named, giving dates of organization and membership, there are a number of other lodges, the data of which I have been unable to obtain, as follows:

"Union Lodge of Masons, Paradise Lodge of Odd Fellows, Custer Company No 22, Knights of Pythias Endowment Rank, Section 377; Bloomington Lodge No. 63 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Central Star Lodge No. 282, of the same order.

"Also the Independent Order of Foresters have organized the following lodges with a large membership. Court Bloomington No. 118, Holy Trinity Court No. 78, St. Mary's Court No. 691, St. Patrick's No. 962, Holy Infant No. 204, St. Elizabeth's Court No. 203.



"The Pioneer Reserve Association have organized two lodges, Pioneer Colony No. 1, and Pioneer Reserve Association No. 2.

"The Court of Honor has organized Central City District Court No. 202, and Court No. 257.

"The Home Forum Benefit Order, the Degree of Honor, the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Independent Order of Mutual Aid, the International Order of Twelve, the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Knights of Honor, Knights of the Globe, Knights of the Maccabees, Royal Orange Institute, Loyal Temperance Legion, Royal Arcanum, Royal League, the Fraternal Tribunes, the North American Union, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, and the Order of Railway Conductors. All have prosperous and growing lodges.

"The total membership of all these orders is approximately 6,000. This membership comes from every trade, occupation and profession. Its influence reaches almost every home. It is made up of persons who may and do largely form and direct public sentiment, and who, by instinct and training, are for the welfare of the community.

"I know there are a few who are disposed to criticise the principle and theory on which these institutions are based. But the critics have been generally persons uninformed of the purpose and object of these societies. And in spite of prejudice and criticism they have gradually grown and prospered until by their deeds the world has come to know them. No evil can flow from an organization of men which has for its basic principle charity. No vice can emanate from a union of persons whose bond of union is benevolence. No wrong can come of an institution whose cardinal principle is patriotism. The world appreciates the fact that to inculcate a spirit of fraternity is no offense against the law of man or God. Brotherhood is a virtue which all these noble institutions seek to attain.

"Charity, benevolence, patriotism, fraternity are sentiments that harmonize with every honest heart. To give to the needy in the hour of sickness and death, to relieve suffering humanity, to maintain the widow and the orphan, make up a religion without a creed and are a basic doctrine of all these societies; and to that end in this city they have distributed more than one-half million dollars.

"Loyalty to the city and the nation are grand principles to inculcate in the mind of man. Devotion to the law and its supreme majesty is a necessary virtue in good citizenship. It would be as impossible for a traitor to his country to obtain membership in one of these orders as it would a common thief. And with this immense membership of superb men and women united on the principle of patriotism forming the active, energetic rank and file of our people, the spirit of loyalty to the city and the nation must prevail. And a certificate of membership in one of these

orders becomes a sacred vow and a solemn assurance to the public that the man or woman who possesses it is a true American citizen.

"The course of humanity has tended toward the brotherhood of man. Man early learned to appreciate the power and recognize the necessity of united co-operation. The enemies of mankind, and the enemies of his life, health and comfort, the enemies of his happiness and prosperity, can best be vanquished by making common cause against them. We have come to know that in many phases of human action it is better and nobler to wipe away the selfish principle of competition and strike together. Too often in the struggle of the individual men turn the sword against each other, and the common cause of humanity is forgotten. The tie which binds men to the alleviation of suffering, to the lessening of sorrow, to the drying of tears is a sacred tie.

"The line along which these institutions that I have named have been working is in unison with the line of human progress. The tendency of civilization is to organize. In every field of activity, in every phase of human endeavor, in every enterprise private or public, social, religious or commercial, there is a constant, ceaseless tendency for men to work together, and in that field where these societies operate union is more potent than in any other.

" Each is a brotherhood and they are helping to lead the world to a common center, where they will help to form a universal brotherhood of man.

"This day must give new vigor to the spirit of loyalty to our city. It calls the child from books and men from business to reflect for a day upon our growth in the past and our possibilities for the future. It engenders in the soul of every individual a public spirit and the public spirit of today means glorious institutions for tomorrow. Each generation works largely for the future, as well as the present, and if this generation does not hand to its successor as much or more than it received from its predecessor then human civilization is moving backward. The old adage, 'The evil men do live after them, but the good is oft interred with the bones,' is false. The good that men do is eternal; the evil, though firmly fixed as adamant, is worn away by the ceaseless tread of time. The evil that men do may retard, but never stops the progress of the world, because progress is the law of God. It is this great truth that fosters and maintains a public spirit. It is this sublime fact that assures reward for every sacrifice which may be made for the public weal.

"In conclusion, let me say that the future destiny of our city is not in the hands of one, but of all. Municipal government will have more to do in the future with the sorrow and the happiness of mankind than it has in the past. The tendency of humanity is toward the town, and new questions are constantly arising for the government of these new conditions. To solve these problems will demand the highest intelligence and the purest motives. Let us assure these things to the future by maintaining all our local institutions in all their vigor and in all their purity,

and if we can say to the next generation, 'We bequeathed to you these institutions as the product of our best endeavor,' we give to it a still grander heritage than came to us from the past."

The close and skirmish drill and the sham battle given by Company D was the thing that all of the young people waited for. The boys spilled smoke and powder by the barrel to the great delight of the kids and to the interest of the elders. The sham battle was the closing feature of the afternoon and the final event of a day that was nothing but success and a praiseworthy reflection on the city of Bloomington.

Tonight all who can get in will be admitted to the Coliseum free, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. A small portion of the seats have been reserved for the members of the city council, the city officials and the committees in charge. The complete programme for the day, as carried out substantially, follows:

MORNING—8 a. m. to 12 m.

Band concerts at court house square by De Molay; Dillon's; Soldiers' Orphans' Home band; Goodman band, Decatur, and Fourth regiment; H. R. K. P. band, Champaign.

9:30 a. m., School Children's Parade.

Divisions formed on Monroe street, west of Center, under the supervision of Superintendent E. M. Van Petten, Chief Marshal Dr. Hallett, and his aids. The line of march is as follows: East on Monroe from Center to Main, north to Market, east to East, south to Jefferson, west to Center, south to Washington, east to East, south to Front, west to the Coliseum. The schools marched in the following order: High school, Edwards, Sheridan, Emerson, Franklin, Hawthorne, Irving, Jefferson, Washington, Raymond, St. Mary's parochial school, St. Mary's German parochial school, German Lutheran school. Dillon's band headed the parade, the K. of P. band of Champaign has a place and the Boys' band of the Soldiers' Home.

AT THE COLISEUM.—10:15 A. M.

Programme for the boys and girls of city schools:

Overture—De Molay orchestra.

Song—"Illinois," audience.

Prayer—President E. M. Smith, Wesleyan.

Song—"Greeting to Fatherland," Bloomington Maennerchor.

Recitation—"The Debating Society at the Deestrict Skule."
Charlotte Clay Probasco.

Toy Symphony—Ladies of Amateur Musical Club.

Address—"Schools of the Olden Times," Dr. Richard Edwards.

Solo—"Star Spangled Banner," in costume, with orchestral accompaniment, Miss Kate Eloise Donahue.

Song—"America," by the audience.

Captain John H. Burnham, superintendent of city schools in 1864, acted as chairman of the gathering.

AFTERNOON.

Music by Bands at Square, 12:30 to 1.30 p. m.

Grand Military and Civic Parade.

Line of March—West on Monroe to Main, south on Main to Jefferson, west on Jefferson to Center, south on Center to Washington, east on Washington to Evans, countermarch to Main, south on Main to Wood, west on Wood to Miller park. Parade moves at 2 p. m.

For the formation the following positions have been assigned: Troop B, facing west, left extending east on Monroe street just east of Prairie; First division east side of Prairie street, facing north; Second division west side of Prairie street; Third division east side of Prairie street, facing south, left extending north; Fourth division west side of Prairie street, facing south; Fifth division, facing north on East street, left extending south; Sixth division, facing south on East street, left extending north; bicycle and Seventh division facing north, between Washington and Front streets on Prairie. The marshals front streets on Prairie.

PARADE DIVISIONS.

Chief Marshal, Dr. Joseph Hallett; M. B. Jeter, Chief of Staff; Aids, Dr. J. W. Hall, Dr. N. F. Jordan, Capt. C. Riebsame, Louis Fitzhenry, J. B. Lennon, Lewis M. Reeves, C. L. Hills, Wm. H. Geneva, Edward Holland. Cavalry Troop B, mounted, will act as escort of Chief Marshal.

First Division.—Escort of Police; Band, De Molay; Marshal, P. A. Thayer; Aids, A. J. Barr, A. B. Funk; Company D, Fifth Regiment, I. N. G.; Wm. T. Sherman Post No. 146, G. A. R.; Hovey Post No. 786, G. A. R.; Normal Ladies' G. A. R. Circle; The Honorable Mayor, Aldermen and other city officials in carriages. Carriage No. 1.—Mayor Thomas, Alderman Lang, Alderman Maxton and Hon. John A. Sterling. Carriage No. 2—Aldermen G. W. Bowman, D. G. O'Neill, Committee Mr. E. M. Prince and Capt. J. H. Burnahm. Carriage No. 3—Aldermen Geo. Morrison, Jesse B. Enlow, A. G. Erickson, J. W. Rogers. Carriage No. 4—Aldermen W. H. Kerrick, W. A. Stautz, R. O. Graham, Fred C. Smith. Carriage No. 5—City Clerk C. C. Hassler, City Attorney W. R. Bach, City Treasurer Harley White, Police Magistrate M. M. Morrissey. Carriage No. 6—Ex-Mayors Franklin Price, E. H. Rood, T. J. Bunn, Ben. F. Funk. Carriage No. 7—Ex-Mayors D. T. Foster, E. M. Heafer, John Reed. Carriage No. 8—Mrs. Maria Paist, Mrs. Virginia Graves, Mrs. Judith Bradner, and Mrs. John A. Jones, of Springfield. Carriage No. 9—Messrs. John Dawson, James Goodheart, Adam Guthrie and Abraham Brokaw. Carriage No. 10—Mrs. J. N. Ward, Mrs. Judge John M. Scott, Mrs. Adelaide Perry and Mrs. John Dawson.

Second Division.—Marshal, John P. Bertoni; Aids, Wm. Bair, J. J. Pitts, Fred L. Lang; Champaign Band; Uniform Rank, K. of P., of Champaign; Captain G. Freese; Custer Division, Uniform Rank, K. of P.; Marshal, Dr. F. J. Welch; Pythias Lodge No. 161, K. of P, Marshal,

Dr. J. L. Yolton; Jesse Fell Lodge K. of P.; Remembrance Lodge, I. O. O. F., Marshal, R. Sellman; Evergreen City Lodge, I. O. O. F., Marshal, J. S. Drust; Bloomington Lodge No. 400, I. O. O. F.; Ridgeley Canton, Uniform Rank, I. O. O. F.; McLean Encampment, I. O. O. F.

Third Division.—Goodman Band, Decatur; Marshal, Julius Dietrich; Aids, C. Lamp, Albert Wochner, Henry Myer, Louis Dauel, Wm. Muhl, W. A. Gerken; "In Memoriam," float; "Fair Bloomington in Allegory," float; German-American citizens.

Fourth Division.—Marshal, J. F. Heffernan; Aids, J. J. Boylan; Wm. V. Evans; Gehrig's band, Pekin; Irish-Americans; John E. Burk, Marshal; Aids, John Ryan, John Sullivan; Irish Clergy in carriages; St. Patrick's Court of Foresters; Holy Trinity Court of Foresters; Shabbona Tribe, I. O. R. M.; Daughters of Pocahontas; Float in charge Mrs. J. E. Johnson, Mrs. Dr. Morseman; Ancient Order of Hibernians; Marshal, P. C. Green; American Mechanics; Marshal, Otto Wallace; Scandia Benevolent Society.

Fifth Division.—Marshal, Homer W. Hall; Aids, P. W. Coleman, William Schmidt; Soldiers' Orphans' Home Band; Maccabee Court No. 150—Marshal, A. B. Thompson; Lady Maccabees—Marshal, Mrs. H. E. Kirkman; Ladies' R. N. A., Float in charge Mrs. Laura Tatman; Evergreen Camp No. 190, R. N. A.; Bloomington Camp No. 637, R. N. A.; Dewey Camp, R. N. A.; Escort Union, Degree Staff; Blooming Grove Camp No. 110, M. W. A.; Invincible Camp No. 1021, M. W. A.; Souvenir Camp No. 4463, M. W. A.; Good Templars—Marshal, John Stilwell; National Union—Marshal, J. E. Johnson; Colored I. O. O. F.—Marshal, A. D. Cecil; Pioneer Reserve Float, in charge William Plumley.

Sixth Division.—Marshal, John F. O'Donnell; Aids, Frank Hulva, R. P. Engleken; Dillon's Military Band; Marshal, J. F. Hulva; Butchers' Union; Miners' Union; Iron Molders' Union; Marshal, C. M. Rosenbaum; Cigarmakers' Union; Marshal, Henry Walker; Brickmakers' Union; Carpenters' and Joiners' Union; Marshal, Wm. Koepke; Plumbers' Union; Marshal, Frank McCleare; Painters' and Decorators' Union; Marshal, C. M. Herrington; Teamsters' Union; Marshal, Wm. Radford; Bricklayers' Union; Marshal, Robert Cannon.

Seventh Division.—Marshal, Wm. H. Plumley; Bicycle Corps.

AT MILLER PARK, 3 P. M.

Drill by U. R. K. of P., Custer company, No. 22.

Drill by degree team Modern Woodmen.

Oration—"A Factor in Our City's Prosperity," Hon. John A. Sterling.

Mounted drill Troop B. I. N. G.

Close drill, skirmish firing and sham battle, Company D, I. N. G., interspersed by music by combined Bloomington, Champaign, Pekin and Decatur bands.

Trapeze work by Messrs. Roush and Washburn.

AT NIGHT—COLISEUM, 8 O'CLOCK.

Mayor L. B. Thomas, Presiding.

Song—"Pioneers," Hassler—Hayden quartette: J. E. Johnson, C. R. Atkinson, J. H. Brown, E. F. Quintal.

Introductory Address, Mayor Thomas.

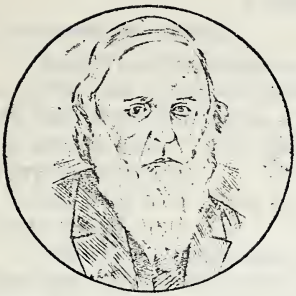
Song—"The Evergreen City That I Love," composed especially by C. E. Stewart; Sung by Lyric quartette: C. E. Stewart, Roy Atkinson, Frank Charlton, E. B. Barnes.

The Evergreen City That I Love.

On a verdant, rolling prairie in the west,
Embowered like a gem a city gleams.
Framed in trees of waving green,
Flashing walls and towers are seen,
Where my heart is ever turning in my dreams.
And my thoughts will often turn,
And my inmost soul will yearn,
When a vision of its beauty will arise.
For my feet may often stray,
But my heart will ever stay
Fixed forever in the city that I prize.

Tis the city of my birth,
The fairest spot on earth
And the resting place of loved ones gone above.
And though time may changes bring,
Still my heart will ever cling
And keep evergreen the city that I love.

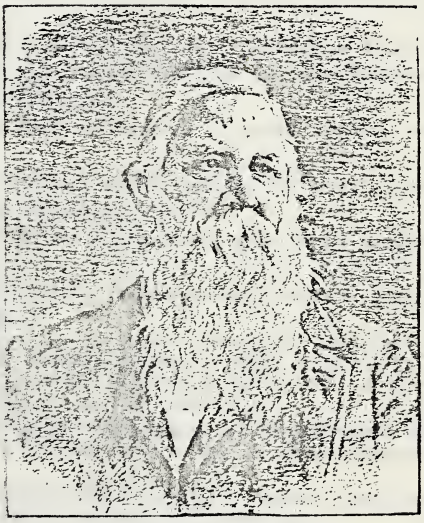
There are maidens in that city of the west
As fair and bright as summer morning skies;
And her sons with valor thrill
And they answer with a will
When Honor, Love, or Duty bids them rise.
And beside a murmuring rill,
On a grassy sloping hill,
Lies a loved one who has long since been at rest.
And our hearts will cling the more,
For the loved ones gone before.
To the evergreen city of the blest. —*Clark E. Stewart.*



DAVID I. PERRY,
Bloomington's First Mayor.

Copy of Button Worn by School Children May 10, 1900.

Office in Which Bloomington's First Council Met.



FRANKLIN PRICE,
Bloomington's Oldest Surviving Mayor.

Address, Hon. James S. Ewing.*

A Citizen of No Mean City.

Gentlemen and Ladies:

Saint Paul, in Jerusalem, was accused by certain of the Jews. They said, "he was a pestilent fellow, a stirrer-up of sedition, a ring-leader of the sect of the Nazarenes, a follower of one Jesus, who is now dead, but he says is alive." The Chief Captain seemed to recognize him as an Egyptian murdered.

But Paul said, "I am a Jew, of Tarsus, in Cilica, "A CITIZEN OF NO MEAN CITY."

This claim of citizenship did not seem to be sufficient, for they bound him, and ordered him to be scourged. But Paul said to a Centurion that stood by, "Is it lawful for you to scourage a man that is a *Roman,* and uncondemned?"

When the Centurion heard that, he went into the Chief Captain, and said, "Take heed what thou doest; for this man is a *Roman!"*

Then the following conversation took place:

"Tell me! art thou a Roman?" Paul said, "Yes." And the Chief Captain, "With a great sum obtained I this freedom;" but Paul said, "I was free born!"

The Chief Captain decided he had no jurisdiction, and that a Roman citizen could not be tried under the Jewish law. So he sent Paul to Cæsarea, to be tried by a Roman Governor.

And between Paul and this Roman Governor occurred another remarkable conversation.

Paul said, "Neither against the law, neither against the temple, nor yet against Cæsar have I offended anything at all."

Festus said, "Wilt thou then go up to Jerusalem, there to be judged of these things?"

Then said Paul, "I stand at Cæsar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged. I appeal unto Cæsar."

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*James S. Ewing was born in McLean county in 1835, at what was then called Walnut Grove, now Eureka, Woodford county, all of that region having been included in McLean county until 1840.

His father was John W. Ewing, the fifth mayor of Bloomington, of whom a sektch is given in this volume in the list of Bloomington's mayors.

In 1840 he came to Bloomington with his father's family, and the boyhood of his remembrance was nearly all passed in this city.

He was educated at Center College, Danville, Ky., and commenced the study of law in Bloomington in 1858. He has always taken a deep interest in politics, and his rare skill and executive ability in this direction caused him at different times to serve as a member of the Democratic and National State Central Committees.

He was made minister to Belgium, and served there in beautiful Brussels from 1893 to 1897.

He has long been one of Bloomington's most talented and eminent lawyers.

And when the Jews again demanded the death of Paul, this governor said:

"It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have license to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him."

Rome had been a republic for 500 years, and her liberties had not yet been lost in the glory of her conquests; but from the Clyde to the Euphrates, and in all her provinces on either side of the Mediterranean, as well in Tarsus as at Rome, the ægis of her laws covered and protected her citizens.

This was a marvelous inheritance! Paul had not "bought it with a great sum," but it came to him as a birthright; and we do not wonder that with pride and confidence he declared he "WAS A CITIZEN OF NO MEAN CITY."

Many things have happened in the nineteen centuries since this exultant declaration of citizenship. Kingdoms and Empires have risen and fallen; Republics have been born, baptized in blood, and gone down to death in their greed for gold and glory. Revolutions have swept over the earth, and chaos reigned for a thousand years. And yet, through all this long night, through all these plots and counter-plots, the spirit of human liberty has survived, and somehow bridging over the waste places of history, enables us to say tonight, with the same pride and the same confidence as Paul in Cæsarea, "I AM A CITIZEN OF NO MEAN CITY."

This citizenship is our inheritance! not "bought with a great sum," but a free gift from our fathers who say to us in spirit, tonight, "Take it! and be thankful."

The city of Bloomington is fifty years old today. But there is a *decade* prior to our entrance into city life, with which I am quite familiar, and about which I prefer to speak. To me, Bloomington from 1840 to 1850 is much more interesting than Bloomington from 1850 to 1900.

To know a man or a woman well, you must know something of his, or her, youth; and to know a city, you must know who were its builders; what were its youthful surroundings, and under what conditions did it find its municipal life?

When we are young our minds are easily moved to joy or sadness by the chords, or discords, of our own dreaming, and imagination plays a large part in filling waste places with things of beauty, and often casts a glamour over events which, possibly, are quite realistic.

Therefore, if some things I may say should seem to be somewhat fanciful, you will remember this is a reminiscence, rather than a history.

Bloomington in 1840 was a picture of "Sweet Auburn!" Try to think of it, as it nestled in the sunshine on the border of the grove. Great oaks standing like mailed sentinels for its protection. No landscape garden; no flower bordered park; no well shaven lawn, or artificial lake, was half so wonderful as that Blooming Grove!

Oaks, elms, hackberry and linden, ash, hickory, maple and walnut; open glassy glades and leafy dells; natural bowers, trellised with wild

grape vines, carpeted with violets and sweetwilliams, perfumed with flowers and resonant with the music of singing birds.

This wonderful grove, full of animal life, fed at nature's bountiful table, a thousand flowers, ranging from spring violet to the golden-rod; the may apple, the paw-paw, and the purple grape; from budding spring to fading autumn, for the delight of man, arrayed herself in her changing garments of beauty.

And the prairie to the north of it more wonderful than the grove, waving and undulating like a sea in motion, was an endless landscape of grasses and flowers, where the wild rose blossomed and the red deer wandered.

"Wonderful land,
Where the loam and the sand
Burst into bloom
At the touch of a hand."

And so, between the *grove* and the *prairie*, with their "orchard, and meadow, and deep tangled wild-wood," lay this pretty village like a sleeping child in the sunshine and the shade.

And this is what the dreamer saw:

"Seas of grain and of answers to the prayers of mankind
And the rose in blossom making a bride of the wind,
And the prairie flowers shining like a scripture in bloom,
And the bees abroad with their plunder and boom,
Never blundering amiss, for there is something to kiss,
Where the flowers out of doors smile in all weather,
And bud, blossom and fruit grace the garden together."

I hold that the men who build a city, who lay its foundation and nourish it into life, impress their characteristics upon it for generations to come. And it is to the founders and pioneer citizens of Bloomington, who laid its foundations in soberness and righteousness, in intelligence, integrity and honor, that we owe the high reputation of our city, and the pride with which we say today, "WE ARE CITIZENS OF NO MEAN CITY."

And when I mention the names of these gentlemen, I am calling a roll of honor.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

for four years, or more, was taught by Dr. Wm. C. Hobbs. There were other school teachers before and after. Mr. Bragg, Mr. S. S. Luce, Mr. George W. Minier, Mr. Peter Folsom, but the village school teacher proper, *par excellence*, was Dr. Hobbs. A singular and remarkable man! He came from Louisville, Ky., I think in 1838. He was the dentist, school teacher, and the social *arbiter elegantarium* of the village. He was a large, handsome and elegant gentleman. While most other citizens dressed in blue jeans, tow linen and linsey wolsey, he wore broadcloth,

silk hats, immaculate linen and silk lined cloaks. He was afterwards a merchant, and for many years the county clerk.

He died leaving no enemies, a good many debts, and twenty-seven satin vests.

I recall the following names of persons now living in Bloomington who attended this school: Adam and Peter Guthrie, William, Newton and James Hodge, Jonathan H. Cheney, Thomas J. Bunn, Richard Lander, John T. Walton, James and William Depew, Edward Hardy, Dr. Wm. M. T. Miller, James S. Ewing, Lewis B. Thomas.

Miss Virginia Hayden, now Mrs. Linus Graves.
Miss Louisa Depew, now Mrs. Dr. Crothers.
Miss Harriet Hardy, now Mrs. I. W. Wilmeth.
Miss Margaret Hawks, now Mrs. Richard Lander.
Miss Nannie McCulloch, now Mrs. D. S. Dyson.
Miss Lydia McKisson, now Mrs. Edward Hardy.
Miss Mary Hawks, now Mrs. O. T. Reeves.

THE DOCTORS.

When I first remember Bloomington, the block north of the court house was owned and occupied as a residence by Dr. John F. Henry.

He came from Hopkinsville, Tenn.; was a descendant of Patrick Henry; a brother of the Hon. Gustavus Henry, one of the great orators of Tennessee.

Dr. Henry was a most elegant and accomplished gentleman, as well as an able physician. He improved the farm east of the city now owned by Mr. George P. Davis, and did much to give tone, character and culture to the new community.

The block east of the court house was owned and occupied by another physician, Dr. John Anderson. He was the father of Mrs. Jonathan H. Cheney. He was a gentleman of means for that day; a learned physician of great dignity of character and of superior intelligence. He died in early manhood, but was long remembered in the village for his kindness and real worth.

Dr. Colborne was another of our early doctors who was very much loved and respected. He removed to Peoria, where he died many years after. His son is now one of the leading physicians and surgeons of that city. There were others who came a little later; the ones I most particularly remember were Dr. A. Luce, Dr. Ezekiel Thomas, Dr. E. K. Crothers, Dr. Geo. W. Stipp, and Dr. Chas. R. Parke.

THE LAWYERS

were David Davis, General Gridley, Wells Colton, and Kersey H. Fell. Afterwards, but while Bloomington was yet a village, and almost at the same time, came a number of young lawyers who well supplemented the fathers of this bar, and continued it, what it always had been and what

it has remained to this day, one of the ablest in the state: Leonard Swett, William Ward Orme, John H. Wickizer, Wm. H. Hanna and John M. Scott.

There were other distinguished lawyers who, while they were not residents of Bloomington, yet practiced at the McLean county bar, and we may claim something of their fame as a possession.

AN INCIDENT.

In the early history of this county, two boys, one day, went into the old court house to hear a lawsuit tried. There were assembled eight young lawyers—not all of them engaged in the trial, but giving strict attention to the proceeding. It was not a suit of great importance. Some one had permitted his cattle to stray into his neighbor's cornfield; the neighbor set his dog on the cattle, and a suit in trespass followed. It was really a suit between the dog and the steers, and involved their respective characters for quietness and good deportment in the neighborhood. But engaged, or interested, in that suit, were eight young lawyers. I doubt if any one of them over 26 or 27 years old; certainly not over 30, and some much younger. The court was presided over by Samuel H. Treat, who afterwards became a United States district judge, and one of the most distinguished lawyers and jurists in the state. One of the lawyers was General Aasahel Gridley, our townsman, and a well known citizen of the state.

David Davis, first a noted lawyer, then a circuit judge; then a judge of the supreme court of the United States; then a United States senator and acting vice-president of the nation; a citizen of state and national fame, whom the people of Bloomington loved and delighted to honor.

Another was John T. Stuart, a brilliant lawyer, several times a member of congress, and one of the most lovable of men.

Another one was David Campbell, then the prosecuting attorney, and afterwards a prominent lawyer and citizen of Springfield.

Another was Edward D. Baker, who was afterwards a United States senator from Oregon; a famous orator, who immortalized himself by his marvelous oration over David Broderick.

Another was James McDougal, a brilliant Irishman, afterwards a United States senator from the state of California.

And Abraham Lincoln! who has passed beyond the domain of human praise into the pantheon of universal history.

I might add that one of those boys afterwards became the vice-president of the United States; and the other is your speaker.

Speaking to any audience in America, and I might say in the world, I doubt if such an incident could be truthfully related of any other gathering.

POLITICS.

We had political parties in those days, and the country was lost and saved as often then as now.

The leading Whigs were David Davis, Wm. McCullough, Allen Withers, Jesse W. Fell, Isaac Funk, General Gridley, Wm. Thomas, Wm. H. Temple, Wm. H. Hodge, James Miller.

The leading Democrats were Merrit L. Covel, Abraham Brokaw, Henry I. Miller, Joseph C. Duncan, John W. Ewing, H. P. Merriman, Albert Dodd, John Moore, Geo. D. McIlhiney.

There was a *third* party—not a Greenback, Populist, or Prohibition party. It was called the *Abolition party!* It was a small and very much abused party. In Bloomington it numbered six members: Thomas Hardy, Wm. Wallace, J. N. Ward, Deacon Tompkins, Geo. Deitrich, Silas Hays.

Abolitionism was then a term of reproach. And those who openly professed the faith were bitterly denounced as fanatics, "pestilent fellows," "stirrers-up of sedition," and enemies of their country. They denied this charge. They said, "We love our country, and therefore dare we not keep silence concerning her sin."

Whigs and Democrats proclaimed the *vital and all important* questions were about Internal Improvements, U. S. Bank, the Tariff, the Mexican War. These six men said, "nothing is important but human liberty." "You cannot have a republic half slave and half free." "A free people cannot have slaves." "It is on our consciences, we must talk."

The Whigs and Democrats said, "You are agitators; you must not agitate, you will ruin the country."

They said, "Not till the country divorces herself from her sin can her bells ring peace."

And now, in the white light of history, we know that theirs was, "The voice crying in the wilderness, make straight the paths of the Lord!"

Now we know, that those six men, and they only, were right, and all the others were wrong.

Now we know, that in politics, questions of arithmetic, questions of finance, questions of economics are never of supreme importance.

Now we know, that in the presence of a question of human liberty, a question of preserving the republic on the true principle of the Declaration of Independence, all other questions must vail their faces, and, for the time being, sink into insignificance.

THE BUSINESS INTERESTS

of the village were well represented. The market was largely local, but almost every demand was supplied by some local industry.

Mr. Matthew H. Hawks operated an oil mill.

Mr. John N. Larrimore manufactured hats.

Mr. Daniel Dryer had a pottery.

Wm. F. Flagg and John W. Ewing, as Flagg & Ewing, operated a saw mill, machine shop and foundry, and manufactured furniture.

David D. Haggard made half bushels.

Lewis Bunn and Oliver Ellsworth were the blacksmiths.

Gillespie and Adolph were tailors.

John Dawson was the shoemaker.

Goodman and Lyman Ferre were the wagon makers.

James Walton and Joshua Harlan were saddlers and harness makers.

John Myers and S. B. Brown ran the flour mill.

Jacob Myers had a woolen mill.

Ebenezer Peck and William Brewer each owned tan yards.

George Deitrich was the tinner.

Noah Stine, Benjamin Harrison, and John Rockhold were coopers.

Allan Withers, Wm. Temple, Wm. H. Allin, James H. Robinson, and A. J. Merriman were our merchants.

Joel Depew was a cabinet maker.

J. N. Ward manufactured chairs.

Cravan Bosley was the house painter, and

John L. Wolcott was the undertaker.

You see how diversified were these industries. How everything that was wanted was manufactured at home. Every one did well, made a good living, and was well content that his neighbor should prosper. There was then no selfish spirit of competition which sought to drive all others out of business and gather all the golden sheaves into one barn.

Remember, in this village were only 500 or 600 people. Ministers, doctors, lawyers, manufacturers, handicraftsmen, and day laborers all worked together for the good of the community and of each other. All whose names I have mentioned in any connection were high-minded, honorable men. Self-respecting and respected, many of them were remarkabel men; and all of them would have been marked men in any community. They respected each other's rights while they maintained their own.

Between these men there were strong attachments and warm friendships, which lasted through life, and in many cases extended to their descendants. There were no rich men, and few poor ones.

I have often expressed a doubt if any other village of equal size ever contained as many men of such peculiar and marked characteristics what might be called "characters," or "types."

There are many of my hearers who will understand exactly what I mean when I call to their recollection: Zera Patterson, Capt. Furgason, John Rockhold, James Allin, General Gridley, John Dietrich, William F. Flagg, Wm. C. Hobbs, Isaac Baker, Dr. Lindley, Bailey H. Coffee, Greenberry Larrison, Dr. Espy, Wm. McCullough, Jesse W. Fell, Willett Gray, Wm. Temple.

Strongly marked characters and utterly unlike any one but themselves.

There were no railroads in those days, no telegraphs, nor telephones, no sewing machines, no gas lights, no pavements, few sidewalks, no daily paper, no city council, no *mayor!* and yet people were happy!

I love to think of this little community, with its simple and healthly habits, its splendid men and women, its bright lads and pretty maidens as something ideal. There was not the elegance, fashion and culture of to-day; but there was honesty, kindness and good will.

There were not the fine residences which now adorn our beautiful city. Their homes were mostly cottages and cabins; but the honeysuckle and the morning-glory climbed over their doorways, and the songs of birds wakened them from slumber.

These were some of the men and woman who laid the foundation and built our city. The builders are dead, but their city remains, and this celebration today is in honor of their memory.

Fifty years ago the village became a city. *In that fifty years what* marvelous changes have taken place! The railroads came, the sidewalks and pavements were built; our churches have increased in size and number. and our colleges and schools, our court house and fine public buildings, our library, our water-works, our fire department, our beautifully shaded streets, our literary and musical societies have all combined to more than fulfill the promise of our youth. In all this material prosperity and improvement we rejoice.

But there is something more about a city than its streets and houses; something, if not so tangible, yet quite as real. It is what the French call

L'ESPRIT DE LA VILLE.

Paris is not simply a great fashionable city which is to have an Exposition this year. It is the city of Charlemagne, of Louis the XIV, of Rosseau and Robespierre, of Marie Antoinette, of the Revolution, the Bastile, and the Commune. It is where kings and emperors have reigned, loved and died; and which a thousand tragedies have embalmed in story and song.

When an American visits London, the first places he inquires after and wants most to see is London Bridge, Drury Lane, and Primrose Hill, immortalized in the wonderful poems of Mother Goose. Then he wants to find the "Old Curiosity Shop," and a hundred other places made so real by the genius of Charles Dickens.

I once stopped over a day in a little town in Italy to visit the grave of a sixteen year old girl who died 400 years ago (or rather who never lived at all,) simply because the greatest poet who ever lived had told how passionately she loved, and how sadly she died. The genius of the poet hallowed the spot and changed the mystic ideal into things rare and real.

A hundred thousand tourists annually visit a little town in Germany (not larger than LeRoy) because a poet wrote the little love song of "Bingen on the Rhine."

The houses, streets and alleys are the "outward and visible signs of the inward and spiritual" life and character of a city which is, after all, the most real. Wherever you feel the touch of humanity, wherever you connect the scenes with the deeds of men, who have lived, and loved, and suffered, the chain is beyond the breaking. Hence these celebrations effect our hearts. They bring to us the memory of those whose lives and works have made life easier for us. They recall whatever there may be of noble action, self-sacrifice, or act of heroism. This celebration will make more real to us these intangible certitudes. If we love our city, that love will be anchored in its memories, tragedies, and traditions.

The moral tone, of a city, its intelligence, its public spirit, its culture, its patriotism, its traditions, its citizenship; what it has done, and what it has produced, determine its certitudes. Considered from this point of view, I think, we may also say, "WE ARE CITIZENS OF NO MEAN CITY."

Bloomington is a patriotic city! Center and the chief city of a noble county that sent three companies to the Black Hawk war. One company to the Mexican war, 4,359 officers and men including one full regiment, the 94th, to the war of the Rebellion and three companies to the war with Spain.

We have Harvey, Howell, Hogg, Orme, and McCullough who gave up their lives for their country. They, with many others, are our heroes, whom we delight to honor.

Bloomington has also furnished her full quota to the civil service of her country. Two vice-presidents, one United States senator, a judge of the United States supreme court; a judge of the court of claims; six members of congress; two governors, and one chief justice of the state of Illinois.

And without any disposition to exaggerate, and in all modesty, I think I may say, that we are prepared to duplicate this record at any time the country may be in need of jurists and statesmen.

Bloomington is a moral city! It is full of beautiful houses; its yards, gardens and lawns are clean and well kept. It is full of churches and schools, and its streets are lined, adorned, and beautiful with shade trees, (except where the spaces are needed for telegraph poles.)

We challenge comparison with any city, as to the moral tone, intelligence, public spirit, culture, and social qualities of our citizens. And, subjectively considered, we may well say, "WE ARE CITIZENS OF NO MEAN CITY."

Thus far I have spoken of the past. But what may we reasonably expect of

THE FUTURE.

I think Bloomington will never be a large city; and I am glad of that. It will never be a boom city; and I am glad of that. It will never be a manufacturing city, and I am glad of that. It will never be the capital of the state; and I am glad of that. It will never be a city like Chicago; and I am glad of that.

Bloomington will continue its steady, conservative, healthy growth towards the fulfillment of its manifest destiny; which is, to become the ideal residence city of the west.

It will not be long until all of our streets will be paved; thus saving the annual expense of taking care of dirt roads, and the enormous additional expense of cleaning the pavements already built. This will be done just as soon as it can be realized that it will cost no more to do it all in one year than to spread it over twenty.

Continuing in the spirit of prophecy, I will say, the time is coming when, following the suggestion of one of our most public spirited citizens, our school house yards and our unique little strip lawns will be turned over to our park commissioners, who will see that they are well covered with grass, their shade trees trimmed and guarded, (and wherever the telegraph, electric light, and telephone companies permit, new trees planted whenever they are needed.

We need, and will have established here, a first-class female college, a fit mate for our universities, where our young girls can secure a finished education, while at the same time enjoying the benefits of home culture and protection. When we have the schools, our city will be sought as a place of residence by people of means and refinement, for purposes of education and the benefits to be derived therfrom. If we have any money to give away, let us give it for this purpose, and not to buggy factories and cereal mills, *et cetera!*

In this ideal city of the future, we will have clean streets. There has been wonderful improvement in the last year. Just as soon as our city council learns that there is no money the citizen pays so willingly as that used in cleaning the streets, this service will be improved. There is another thing! Some day, it will dawn upon the street commissioner, that it costs no more to clean off the crossings within an hour after a rain, than it does four days after. And then, won't we all be happy?

We may none of us live to see the blessed time, but some time "in the sweet bye and bye" the long rows of great ugly, black, dirty poles, which mar, disfigure, and disgrace many of our most beautiful avenues, will be removed, and the rusty wires which adorn them will be buried out of sight. Do not think I am imposing upon your credulity, or desire to create false hopes. In this wonderful century of material progress more wonderful things have happened, and even if our eyes may not see this glory, we may leave it as a hope and aspiration to our posterity.

There is a beautiful little city to the north of us, built up around our state university. I am in favor of annexing Normal. It is not at all certain that the inhabitants of that city are capable of self-government. In all the years they have been trying the experiment, they haven't established a single saloon, and but one law office. Annexation would be of great financial advantage to us. It would open up a great missionary field, and a new area of enterprise for our surplus lawyers, real estate men, insurance agents and book peddlers. I do not favor, however, forcible annexa-

tion (if it can be avoided). I believe the "constitution follows the flag," and favor a policy that would give these "insurgents" the benefit of home government, under our direction, and the rights of citizenship; provided they accept our notions of citizenship.

If Normal will allow us to retain a few saloons, and the city railway company will agree to run enough cars after the theater, the matter can be easily arranged.

Then by a judicious system of tariff duties, or by special assessment, we might compel these new citizens to build hard roads and pavements connecting us with our "new possessions."

By the establishment of a coaling station at the university, we could easily extend our trade to the Orphans' Home, Hudson, Kerrick, and Kappa. The possibilities are enormous.

More seriously speaking, there is a growing conviction that a union of these cities, under just and proper conditions, will be mutually beneficial in very many ways. These are visions of hard roads, paved streets, shaded drives, and intervening parks; of a larger and more beautiful city, cheaper taxation, more influence for good, and brighter prospects for the future.

Our little neighbor is somewhat coy, and must be wooed as a bride; the union must be a marriage, and added to its material advantages, must be added a dowry of love and affection.

One other hope allow me to express. In the old city cemetery sleep many of our city builders, with the ones they loved. This consecrated property is owned by the city. Is not this an appropriate occasion to suggest the caring for and beautifying of this long neglected city of our dead? It would be but the grateful performance of a sacred duty. I am sure I express the unanimous sentiment of every citizen of Bloomington, when I say to our city council that any reasonable expenditure of money for this purpose would meet with their cordial approval.

A city is a part of the state and the nation. As we are "CITIZENS OF NO MEAN CITY," in a far higher sense we are citizens of a great free Republic.

As we gather up the memories and traditions of our little city, that our love and patriotism may grow into fellowship with them, we will not forget the broader and more sacred obligations we owe to our entire country. We will remember with renewed thankfulness our unpaid debt of gratitude to its founders and builders.

If I remind you, it is not because you have forgotten, how they laid its foundations on the solid rock of absolute political and legal equality, and then cemented them with their blood; how they gave us a government without king, or caste, or pride of birth, where we call no man master; where there is no royal road to distinction, and where honest worth is better than coronet or patent of nobility; how they left us rich legacies in their words of wisdom for our guidance.

This great legacy is ours, not bought with a price, but a free gift. What we will do with it, and how we will execute our trust, remains to be

written. If we are true to our trust; true to our fathers, true to the insitutions they founded, our country will go on from prosperity to prosperity, and find its fruition in power, and safety, and peace. But if faithless, we relax public vigilance, and are seduced into yielding to the rash impulses of the hour, and permit our country to be dragged into the vortex of foreign strife, we may make shipwreck of the noblest bark that was ever launched on the tide of time.

The God of Nations, who inspired the Declaration of Independence, who gave us Jefferson and Lincoln, who camped with our armies at Valley Forge and on a hundred battlefields of civil strife, who has safe-guarded us in all our trials, will not forsake us in our present temptation. But out of it all, as purified by fire, will come a renewed patriotism, a purer love of liberty, a more unselfish public service, and a more stainless public honor, which will enable us, and our children's children, to say, with exultation and pride, not only, are we, "CITIZENS OF NO MEAN CITY!" but of the great free American Republic.

Song—Selected; Wesleyan quartette: Paul Smith, Burke Smith, R. C. Smedley, R. B. Smedley.

Original Poem—C. C. Hassler.

Music—Lyric Quartette.

"Bloomington in the Fifties"—Franklin Price, Mayor of the city from 1854 to 1855.

Old Fiddlers, Selections—John Meyer and Daniel Grow.

Reminiscences—Hon. Thomas F. Tipton.

Song—"Pale in the Amber West"—Hayden Quartette.

WILLIAM R. BACH.

Bloomington, Illinois.

BY WILLIAM R. BACH.*

"We are citizens of no mean city." From its founders and builders has the present generation received in trust, a goodly heritage, to be by it increased in prestige and transmitted inviolate to posterity.

Let the constant aim of its present and future citizens be, as was the aim of its people in the past, to preserve it always from corruption and misrule.

Proud indeed are the citizens of the city of Bloomington of their little city and justly so too, for they realize that every qualification requisite to an ideal city can there be found. To demonstrate that the civic pride which so strongly characterizes its citizens and which causes them to make such claims for its superiority, rests not alone on natural love of native town, but rather on cold facts and statistics, is the purpose of this article.

Herein we will briefly describe conditions in Bloomington since its foundation to the present time, a period of seventy-two years. These conditions have been learned partly from actual observation, partly from public records and partly from the lips and pens of others. We will also present statistics of interest concerning it and its institutions.

It began with the construction of the first log cabin in the year 1827 along the northern edge of Blooming Grove timber, near the southwest corner of Main and Olive street, using our present day descriptions.

In 1831, James Allin laid out the premises bounded by North, East, West and Front streets in what is known as the orig-

*William R. Bach was born in Bloomington, Illinois, December 10, 1867; was educated in the public schools of the city, graduating from the High School in 1885; was four years in the United States postal service. In 1894 graduated at the Law school of the Illinois Wesleyan University with the highest honors of his class; was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with Sigmund Livingston. Was city attorney in 1898, '99, '00, '01, during which time he revised the ordinances of the city. Is park commissioner and chairman of the Republican County Committee. He is a member of the McLean County Historical Society, at whose request as well as that of the city officials, he has prepared this article.

inal Town of Bloomington, but it had no political powers or functions.

Its first epoch covers the space of time from the first foundation of the little hamlet nestling at the timber's edge—to the year 1843—when the Town of Bloomington was organized and incorporated under the laws of Illinois. During that part of this first epoch prior to the 25th day of December, 1831—this territory was a part of Blooming Grove under the government of the various county commissioners of the different counties of which it was a part.

After December 25, 1831, it was and has ever since been a part of this great county of McLean—rejoicing in the honor of having continuously been its county seat from its foundation to the present time.

It had no local government until organized and chartered as a town in 1843.

From 1831 to 1844 it was governed by the county commissioners' court, consisting of three electors residing in the county and having jurisdiction over the entire county.

That future generations may know in whose care the government of this little hamlet was during the formative period, from 1831 to 1844, I here submit the names of the county commissioners and the years of their service:

Year ending 1832, Jonathan Cheney, Timothy B. Hoblitt, Jesse Havens.

1833—Seth Baker, Andrew McMillan, Timothy B. Hoblitt.
1834—Seth Baker, Andrew McMillan, Timothy B. Hoblitt.
1835—Seth Baker, Andrew McMillan, Timothy B. Hoblitt.
1836—Seth Baker, Andrew McMillan, John B. Jones.
1837—Joseph Bartholomew, William C. Johnston, Seth Baker.
In 1838 Joseph Bartholomew, William C. Johnston, Seth Baker and William Orendorff, to fill the unexpired term of Seth Baker.
1839—Joseph Bartholomew, William C. Johnston, William Orendorff.
1840—William C. Johnston, James R. Dawson, William Orendorff.
1841—Henry I. Clark, William C. Johnston, James R. Dawson.
1842—Nathan Low, James R. Dawson, William Conaway.
1843—Israel W. Hall, James R. Dawson, William Conaway.

The foregoing list was taken from the records of the county commissioners' court, in the custody of the county clerk and have

been verified by the Hon. Ezra M. Prince, secretary of the McLean County Historical Society, and by myself.

The second epoch of this little settlement began with the organization of the Town of Bloomington in 1843 with the following boundaries: Beginning at the NE. corner of the W. 1-2 of the NW. 1-4 of Sec. 3, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. 3d P. M.; thence S. 1 1-2 miles, thence W. 1 1-2 miles; thence N. 1 1-2 miles; thence E. 1 1-2 miles to beginning. And it may be said that with the organization of the town government really began the municipal corporation. At this period of time its government was transferred from the county commissioners' court having jurisdiction of the entire county to the president and board of trustees of the town. Then began its legal existence as a corporation. During this stage of its progress it was governed by trustees—the following were the trustees of the Town of Bloomington from 1844 to 1850:

1844—Matthew H. Hawks, president; Bailey H. Coffey, James T. Walton, resigned May 20, 1844, William Thomas elected to fill vacancy; John Magoun, William Gillespie.

1845—Bailey H. Coffey, president; Abraham Brokaw, Samuel D. Luce, Goodman Ferre, William H. Allin.

1846—Goodman Ferre, president; Abraham Brokaw, J. E. McClun, William Platt.

1847—Bailey Coffey, president; Joshua Harlan, Charles P. Merriman, William McKisson, Hugh Taylor.

1848—C. P. Merriman, president; John Foster, William G. Thompson, John W. Ewing, George W. Minier.

1849—G. W. Minier, president; John Foster, W. G. Thompson, Ezekiel Thomas, John W. Ewing.

Of the foregoing Abraham Brokaw alone still lives and enjoy the advantages of Blessed Bloomington.

The third epoch embraces that period commencing with the granting by the state legislature on February 19, 1850, of a special charter changing the Town of Bloomington into a full-fledged city, and ends with the present time.

The city then contained four wards and had a population of 1,611 people. It was a mile square, with the following boundaries: Beginning on a line between Secs. 9 and 10, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. 3 P. M., 17 Chs. S. of the Cor. to Secs. 3, 4, 9 and 10, thence W. to a point 17 Chs. S. and 129 L. E. of the Cor. of Secs. 4, 5, 8 and 9,

thence N. 1 mile, thence E. 1 mile to a line between Secs. 3, 4, 9 and 10, thence S. 1 mile to place of beginning. By present street boundaries this would be: Beginning in the center of Bunn street 82 ft. S. of S. line of Wood street, thence W. to a point 266 feet S. of S. line of Wood street and 54.86 feet W. of W. line of Summit street, thence N. to a point 132 ft., S. of S. line of Chestnut street and 125 feet E. of E. line of Allin street, thence E. to I. C. R. R., thence S. to beginning

In 1862, the number of wards was increased to five.

In 1867 the number of aldermen was increased to ten, two representing each ward.

In 1870 the sixth ward was added.

In 1897 the city of Bloomington was reorganized under the general law and the city divided into seven wards, each ward being entitled to two aldermen.

In 1867 the corporate limits of the city of Bloomington were fixed by an amendment to the city's charter as follows:

The corporate limits of the city of Bloomington shall embrace and include within the same, all of Sec. 4, the W. 1-2 of Sec. 3, the E. 1-2 of Sec. 5, the NE. 1-4 of Sec. 8, the N. 1-2 of Sec. 9, and the NW. 1-4 of Sec. 10, all being in T. 23 N., R. 2 E. of the 3rd P. M.; the SE. 1-4 of Sec. 32, the S. 1-2 of Sec. 33, and the SW. 1-4 of Sec. 34, all being in T. 24 N, R. 2 E. of the 3rd P. M., making a district two miles square.

The area of the city of Bloomington has since been increased, both by annexation of contiguous property and by platting of additions thereto, as follows: Blocks 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, McClun's second addition to Bloomington. Approved July 10, 1858.

McClun's third addition to Bloomington. Approved 1858.

William Musch's addition to Bloomington. Approved by the city council March 13, 1868.

William's and Rice's addition to Bloomington. Approved by the city council April 24, 1869.

A. H. Moore's addition to Bloomington. Approved by city council June 5, 1868.

Blocks 4 and 5 Cranmer's addition to Bloomington. Approved by the board of supervisors, September 19, 1866.

Block "A" and block 1, north of quarter section line; block 2 and lots 19, 20 and 22, block 6 Croxton addition to the city of Bloomington. Approved August 30, 1870.

The following described territory, to-wit:

Beginning at a point where the north line of Washington street intersects the west line of the city limits of said city of Bloomington, thence along the line of the said city limits to the west line of the right-of-way of the Chicago & Alton railroad. Thence southerly along the west line of the Chicago & Alton railroad company's right-of-way, to the south line of lot 13 of Assessor's subdivision of lot 14 in the S. 1-2 of said lot 13, and also Williams street and lot 38 of block 2, in Stevenson's and Worrell's consolidated subdivision of parts of Secs. 5 and 8 to the SW. corner of said lot 38, thence north on the west line of blocks 2 and 1 in said Stevenson's and Worrell's consolidated subdivision, and lot 3 in Assessor's subdivision of lot 14, to a point on the south side of the fair grounds (north side of said Washington street) directly north of the NW. corner of lot 3 in Assessor's subdivision of lot 14 of S. 1-2 of Sec. 5; thence east along the north side of said Washington street to the place of beginning. All being in T. 23 N. of R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M. in the county of McLean and State of Illinois, was annexed by ordinance approved June 2, 1885.

Citizen's addition to Bloomington. Approved, city council August 15, 1890.

Davis' subdivision of part of lot 1, of the subdivision of the SW. 1-4 of Sec. 9, T. 23 N., R. 2 E of the 3d P. M., was annexed by ordinance approved May 2, 1896.

Lots 1 and 2, block 1, and lots 1 and 2, block 2 of Van Schoick's subdivision of lot 10; and 88 1-2 feet off the E. side of lot 9, of subdivision of the SW. 1-4 of Sec. 9, T. 23, R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M., was annexed by ordinance approved May 28, 1897.

The following described territory, to-wit: Lot 2 of the subdivision of the SW. 1-4 of Sec. 9, T. 23, R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M., was annexed by ordinance, approved October 8, 1898.

The following described territory, to-wit: Lot 2 and part of lot 7 of the subdivision of the SW. 1-4 of Sec. 9, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M., described as follows: Commencing at the NW. corner of said lot 2, thence W. along the N. line of said SW. 1-4 of Sec. 9 to the center line of Oak street; thence S. on said center line of Oak street, produced 165 feet; thence to the SW. corner of said lot 2, thence N. 165 feet to the place of beginning, was annexed by ordinance December 2, 1898.

The following described territory, to-wit: Blocks 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9, fair ground subdivision of the NW. 1-4 of Sec. 5, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M., was annexed to the city by ordinance approved December 31, 1898.

The following described territory to-wit: Blocks 15, 14 and 13, fair ground subdivision of the NW. 1-4 of Sec. 5, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. of the 3d P. M., was annexed to the city by ordinance, approved November 24, 1900.

The following described territory, to-wit: Commencing at the center of Sec. 3, T. 23 N., R. 2 E. of 3d P. M., thence east on the quarter section line of said Sec. 3 to the NE. corner of lot 1 of Fell's outlots; thence S. on the E. side of the W. 1-2 of the SE. 1-4 of said Sec. 3 to the center line of Taylor street if extended due E. to the quarter section line running north and south through the center of said Sec. 3; thence north on said quarter section line to the place of beginning, situated in McLean county, and State of Illinois, was annexed to the city by vote of the citizens of Bloomington had at the regular city election on April 15, 1902, and by city ordinance approved May 10, 1902.

The town and city of Bloomington during its fifty-eight years of existence has been particularly fortunate in the high class of men that have governed it and made its laws.

The prominent place that it now occupies among the cities of this state and nation along financial, political, religious, educational and moral lines and in the character of its citizens and their homes is directly attributable to the men who through the bygone years had the destiny of the city in their hands. "They builded better than they knew." Present and future generations will reap the benefit of their honor, integrity and fidelity to public interests. May posterity ever be grateful to the forefathers of this hamlet for their labors in its behalf.

The following is a list of the mayors and aldermen of the city of Bloomington and the years of their service:

MAYORS.

David I. Perry, 1850.
Charles P. Merriman, 1851.
John H. Wickizer, 1852.
William Wallace, 1853.
John W. Ewing, 1854.
Franklin Price, 1855-1856.
Amasa J. Merriman, 1857-1858-1863.
John M. Stillwell, 1859-1868-1869.
H. S. Herr, 1860.
George Parke, 1861-1862.
Joel DePew, 1864.
E. H. Rood, 1865-1866-1867-1880.
T. J. Bunn, 1870-1877.
B. F. Funk, 1871-1872-1873-1874-1875-1884-1885.
E. B. Steere, 1878.
John Reed, 1876-1879.
John W. Trotter, 1881-1882-1883.
Lewis B. Thomas, 1886-1887-1888-1900-1901-1902.
J. R. Mason, 1889-1890.
C. F. Koch, 1891-1898-1899.
D. T. Foster, 1892-1893-1894-1897.
G. M. Smith, 1895.
Edgar M. Heafer, 1896.

ALDERMEN.

1850.—1 ward, Jay N. Ward; 2, Bailey H. Coffey; 3, William Gillespie; 4, E. Thomas.

1851.—1 ward, Joshua H. Harlan; 2, Bailey H. Coffey; 3, William Gillespie; 4, E. Thomas.

1852.—1 ward, Joshua H. Harlan; 2, William Wallace; 3, Bailey H. Coffey; 4, Thomas F. Worrell.

1853.—1 ward, Goodman Ferre; 2, Samuel Doughty; 3, William Gillespie; 4, Thomas F. Worrell.

1854.—1 ward, Goodman Ferre; 2, Samuel Doughty; 3, Daniel J. Combs; 4, John L. Routt.

1855.—1 ward, Henry S. Herr; 2, Oliver Ellsworth; 3, George Hinshaw; 4, John L. Routt.

1856.—1 ward, Milo Chatfield; 2, Oliver Ellsworth; 3, Mark Ross; 4, J. T. Stevenson.

1857.—1 ward, Milo Chatfield; 2, Alex B. Shaffer; 3, Mark Ross; 4, W. C. Watkins.

1858.—1 ward, Milo Chatfield; 2, Alexander B. Shaffer; 3, E. H. Rood; 4, D. F. Stinson.

1859.—1 ward, Goodman Ferre; 2, George W. Parke; 3, E. H. Rood; 4, D. F. Stinson.

1860.—1 ward, Goodman Ferre; 2, George W. Parke; 3, J. N. Larrimore; 4, Joel Depew.

1861.—1 ward, D. D. Haggard; 2, Robert Parke; 3, J. N. Larrimore; 4, Joel Depew.

1862.—1 ward, D. D. Haggard; 2, Robert Parke; 3, William Van Schoick; 4, S. W. Dodd; 5, R. McDonald.

1863.—1 ward, William Paist; 2, Wm. S. Vreeland; 3, William Van Schoick; 4, S. W. Dodd; 5, R. McDonald.

1864.—1 ward, William Paist; 2, William S. Vreeland; 3, William Van Schoick; 4, B. Holcomb; 5, R. McDonald.

1865.—1 ward, J. Ellis; 2, P. Whitmer; 3, William Van Schoick; 4, B. Holcomb; 5, William Condon.

1866.—1 ward, J. Ellis; 2, P. Whitmer; 3, A. B. Gillett; 4, B. Holcomb; 5, William Condon.

1867.—1 ward, Luman Burr, J. Ellis; 2, F. A. Packard, W. C. Johnson; 3, S. W. Waddle, A. B. Gillett; 4, Peter Rockwell, B. Holcomb; 5, S. S. Parke, M. McGrath.

1868.—1 ward, D. D. Haggard, L. Burr; 2, T. J. Bunn, F. A. Packard; 3, H. M. Riggs, S. W. Waddle; 4, D. O. Moore, P. Rockwell; 5, John H. Regan, S. S. Parke.

1869.—1 ward, John Geltmacher, D. D. Haggard; 2, John Weichlein, T. J. Bunn; 3, E. F. Edwards, H. M. Riggs; 4, Peter Rockwell, D. O. Moore; 5, Michael Mahoney, J. H. Regan.

1870.—1 ward, E. B. Steere, John Geltmacher; 2, Michael Martin, John Weichlein; 3, J. P. Butler, E. F. Edwards; 4, William Wilson, Peter

Rockwell; 5, James O'Donovan, Michael Mahoney; 6, H. G. Reeves, David Kern.

1871.—1 ward, T. F. Harwood, E. B. Steere; 2, Peter Folsom, M. Martin; 3, E. F. Edwards, J. P. Butler; 4, George Bruner, William Wilson; 5, Henry Geymer, James O'Donovan; 6, David Kern, H. G. Reeves.

1872.—1 ward, T. F. Harwood, E. B. Steere; 2, Peter Folsom, William Spurgin; 3, E. F. Edwards, J. P. Butler; 4, George Bruner, S. Sampson; 5, Henry Geymer, William H. Bell; 6, David Kern, Robert Thompson.

1873.—1 ward, E. B. Steere, John E. Thomas; 2, William Spurgin, John W. Trotter; 3, J. P. Butler, E. F. Edwards; 4, S. Sampson, B. L. Lucas; 5, W. H. Bell, John Maher; 6, Robert Thompson, John Reed.

1874.—1 ward, John E. Thomas, David D. Haggard; 2, John W. Trotter, William Spurgin; 3, E. F. Edwards, John S. Scibird; 4, B. L. Lucas, Peter Rockwell; 5, John Maher, John Weichlein; 6, John Reed, Robert Thompson.

1875.—1 ward, David D. Haggard, H. S. McCurdy; 2, William Spurgin, John W. Trotter, M. Hausen; 3, John S. Scibird, A. F. Risser; 4, Peter Rockwell, B. L. Lucas; 5, John Weichlein, John H. Regan; 6, Robert Thompson, John Reed.

1876.—1 ward, H. S. McCurdy, F. M. Andrus; 2, John W. Trotter, William Condon; 3, A. F. Risser, Enoch J. Moore; 4, B. L. Lucas, William Maddux; 5, John H. Regan, John Weichlein; 6, John Reed, Franklin White.

1877.—1 ward, F. Andrus, N. C. Sweeney; 2, William Condon, J. W. Trotter; 3, E. J. Moore, W. W. Stevenson; 4, William Maddux, Peter Rockwell; 5, John Weichlein, Daniel Hagerty; 6, Franklin White, David Kern.

1878.—1 ward, N. C. Sweeney, Josiah Richardson; 2, J. W. Trotter, Leonard Seibert; 3, W. W. Stevenson, E. J. Moore; 4, Peter Rockwell, William Maddux; 5, Daniel Hagerty, Patrick Keating; 6, David Kern, Frank White.

1879.—1 ward, Josiah Richardson, N. C. Sweeney; 2, Leonard Seibert, William Condon; 3, E. J. Moore, W. W. Stevenson; 4, William Maddux, Peter Rockwell; 5, Patrick Keating, Daniel Hagerty; 6, Frank White, John W. Evans.

1880.—1 ward, N. C. Sweeney, S. C. Wilson; 2, William Condon, Leonard Seibert; 3, W. W. Stevenson, E. J. Moore; 4, Peter Rockwell, L. B. Thomas; 5, Daniel Hagerty, Patrick Keating; 6, John W. Evans, Frank White.

1881.—1 ward, S. C. Wilson, William E. Gapen, N. C. Sweeney; 2, L. Seibert, William Condon; 3, E. J. Moore, W. W. Stevenson; 4, L. B. Thomas, George A. Johnston; 5, Patrick Keating, William O'Connor; 6, Franklin White, John W. Evans.

1882.—1 ward, N. C. Sweeney, B. F. Hoopes; 2, William Condon, Martin Meyer; 3, W. W. Stevenson, James E. Miller; 4, George A. Johnston, L. B. Thomas; 5, William O'Connor, Daniel Hagerty; 6, John W. Evans, D. D. Daniels.

1883.—1 ward, B. F. Hoopes, W. E. Gapen; 2, Martin Meyer, John Eddy; 3, J. E. Miller, C. F. Koch; 4, Lewis B. Thomas, George A. Johnston; 5, D. Hagerty, J. Weichlein; 6, D. D. Daniels, F. W. Chrisman.

1884.—1 ward, W. E. Gapen, N. C. Sweeney; 2, John Eddy, C. H. Gmehlin; 3, C. F. Koch, Cheney Moulton; 4, George A. Johnston, L. B. Thomas; 5, J. Weichlein, D. S. Tuohy; 6, F. W. Chrisman, R. N. Evans.

1885.—1 ward, N. C. Sweeney, J. R. Mason; 2, C. H. Gmehlin, Lester Green; 3, C. Moulton, C. F. Koch; 4, L. B. Thomas, W. F. Crawford; 5, D. S. Tuohy, J. H. Regan; 6, R. N. Evans, H. W. Stillhammer.

1886.—1 ward, J. R. Mason, Charles E. Perry; 2, Lester Green, William Stautz; 3, C. F. Koch, G. H. Miller; 4, W. F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, John H. Regan, James Costello; 6, Henry W. Stillhammer, John L. Beath.

1887.—1 ward, Judson R. Mason, Charles E. Perry; 2, William A. Stautz, Lester Green; 3, George H. Miller, C. F. Koch; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, James Costello, John H. Regan; 6, E. R. Morse, J. L. Beath.

1888.—1 ward, Charles E. Perry, Guy A. Carlton; 2, William A. Stautz, Lester Green; 3, George H. Miller, Cheney Moulton; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M Heafer; 5, James Costello, Frank A. Gregory; 6, Edwin R. Morse, John L. Beath.

1889.—1 ward, Guy A. Carlton, Charles E. Perry; 2, Lester Green, William Stautz; 3, Cheney A. Moulton, Charles Lamp; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, Frank A. Gregory, James Costello; 6, E. R. Morse, George McIntosh.

1890.—1 ward, D. T. Foster, Chas. E. Perry; 2, William G. Boyce, William A. Stautz; 3, Cheney Moulton, Charles Lamp; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, Edward Holland, James Costello; 6, George M. Smith, George McIntosh.

1891.—1 ward, F. J. Maxwell, D. T. Foster; 2, William G. Boyce, William A. Stautz; 3, Cheney Moulton, H. H. Bolles; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, Edward Holland, James Costello; 6, George M. Smith, Charles H. Scott.

1892.—1 ward, F. J. Maxwell, B. F. Hoopes; 2, William G. Boyce, William A. Stautz; 3, Clayton L. Hutchinson, H. H. Bolles; 4, William F. Crawford, Edgar M. Heafer; 5, Edward Holland, James Costello; 6, George M. Smith, Chas. H. Scott.

1893.—1 ward, F. J. Maxwell, B. F. Hoopes; 2, William A. Stautz, William G. Boyce; 3, John G. Welch, Clayton L. Hutchinson; 4, Edgar M. Heafer, William F. Crawford; 5, James Costello, Edward Holland; 6, Chas. H. Scott, Geo. M. Smith.

1894.—1 ward, B. F. Hoopes, F. J. Maxwell; 2, W. A. Stautz, Otto Gaffron; 3, John G. Welch, F. C. Smith; 4, Edgar M Heafer, William C. Schultz; 5, James Costello, Edward Holland; 6, Charles H. Scott, Harvey Hart.

1895.—1 ward, B. F. Hoopes, James S. Neville; 2, Otto Gaffron, W. A. Stautz; 3, F. C. Smith, John G. Welch; 4, William C. Schultz, William

C. Hodge; 5, Edward Holland, James Costello; 6, Harvey Hart, Chas. H. Scott.

1896.—1 ward, B. F. Hoopes, James S. Neville; 2, Otto Gaffron, W. A. Stautz; 3, F. C. Smith, John G. Welch; 4, Chas. A. Stewart, William C. Hodge; 5, John F. Dixon, James Costello; 6, Harvey Hart, Chas. H. Scott.

1897.—1 ward, B. F. Hoopes, James S. Neville; 2, Otto Gaffron, William A. Stautz; 3, F. C. Smith, Fred L. Lang; 4, Chas. A. Stewart, William C. Hodge; 5, John F. Dixon, Henry Geymer; 6, Harvey Hart, Lawson D. Welch.

1898.—1 ward, George C. Morrison, William L. Hallam, died January 23, 1898, James S. Neville, elected to fill unexpired term; 2, J. H. Kirkpatrick, Jesse B. Enlow; 3, J. A. Schneider, Paul Finnan; 4, Joseph C. Means, Henry S. Dooley; 5, James McDermott, D. M. O'Neil; 6, L. D. Welch, R. O. Graham; 7, Fred L. Lang, Louis E. Ling.

1899.—1 ward, James S. Neville, G. C. Morrison; 2, Jesse B. Enlow, L. J. Kohler; 3, Paul Finnan, Wave Miller; 4, Henry S. Dooley, George W. Bowman; 5, D. M. O'Neil, Edward Holland; 6, R. O. Graham.

1900.—1 ward, G. C. Morrison, W. H. Kerrick; 2, Jesse B. Enlow, L. J. Kohler; 3, Robert Maxton, Wave Miller; 4, John W. Rogers, George W. Bowman; 5, Daniel M. O'Neil, Edward Holland; 6, R. O. Graham, John J. Pitts; 7, Fred L. Lang, A. G. Erickson.

1901.—1 ward, W. H. Kerrick, Geo. Morrison; 2, Jesse B. Enlow, William A. Stautz; 3, Robt. Maxton, Paul Finnan; 4, John W. Rogers, Geo. W. Bowman; 5, Daniel O'Neil, Edward Holland; 6, R. O. Graham, F. C. Smith; 7, Alexander G. Erickson, Fred L. Lang.

1902.—1 ward, W. H. Kerrick, Geo. C. Morrison; 2, W. T. Shorthose, William A. Stautz; 3, W. P. Bolles, Paul Finnan; 4, J. W. Rogers, Geo. Bowman; 5, Daniel M. O'Neil, Edward Holland; 6, R. O. Graham, F. C. Smith; 7, F. L. Lang, resigned, F. Hulva to fill unexpired term, C. L. Miller.

1903.—1 ward, Edmund O'Connell, W. H. Kerrick; 2, Geo. C. Freese, W. T. Shorthose; 3, Paul Finnan, W. P. Bolles; 4, J. C. Means, J. W. Rodgers; 5, Edward Holland, D. M. O'Neil; 6, F. C. Smith, R. O. Graham; 7, J. F. Hulva, Chas. L. Miller.

The government of a city like Bloomington with all its varied interests and different classes of people, is an exceedingly difficult task and becomes more difficult as the city grows in size. It seems from the high regard that its mayors are still held that the citizens of Bloomington have appreciated and do now appreciate the value of their efforts in the city's behalf, and that the ability and character of the men who have steered it from its first launching into the sea of municipal life, as a city, to the present time has been far above the average.

Bloomington has always been well governed in the larger sense of the word. While there have been periods when some portion of its citizens may have been dissatisfied—still taking the years of its existence, as a whole—I say it has indeed been well governed. It has much to show for its short existence.

The credit for its important place among the cities of our land, lies largely with the men who from time to time have stood at its helm. Some have piloted it through times of peace and prosperity, some through periods of depression and repudiation. All with the same idea uppermost in their minds. The advancement and upbuilding of their home city.

One fact stands to its credit in the eyes of the financial world and has been the chief cause of the city's wonderful credit, it being equalled in its credit by no city in Illinois. That fact is that no debt or obligation of the city of Bloomington, however illegal has ever been repudiated. All have been promptly paid when due. Conservatism has characterized its government at all times. Its public debt is small in comparison to the vast amount of public property.

I deem it not out of place here to give a short biographical sketch of each of the twenty-three mayors that have ruled the destinies of our city.

I regret very much that a limited space will very much abbreviate what may be said concerning these men, also that in a few instances on account of the remoteness of the time of their service very few facts are at our command.

One fact is applicable to all. It always has been and is now a great honor to be the mayor of such a municipality as Bloomington, Illinois. On the other hand it always has been and is now a great satisfaction to the citizens of this city to have been governed by such men as have graced the mayor's chair of this city during its existence as a municipality.

DAVID I. PERRY.

The first mayor of Bloomington was David I. Perry. He was a minister of the gospel and belonged to the Presbyterian faith. Thus it will be seen that the city's commencement was auspicious. Its ideal then was a highly moral city placed in the control of high-minded men. It has never departed from those lofty aims.

David I. Perry was born at Northumberland, Saratoga county, New York, October 11, 1797. Was married to Maria Birdsall, daughter of Dr. George W. Birdsall at Norwich, N. Y., April 7, 1824. United with the Presbyterian church at Cambridge, N. Y., when quite a young man, studied for the ministry, supplied three different pulpits in the state of New York. Came to Illinois with his family in 1841, settled at Sycamore, DeKalb county, where he had charge of a church; came to Bloomington where he preached until the fall of 1850.

When the city of Bloomington was organized in 1850, he was elected mayor, the only public office he ever held. For many years he was a trusted employee in the McLean County Bank. He died in Bloomington, Illinois, May 15, 1876.

CHARLES P. MERRIMAN.

Charles P. Merriman, the second mayor of Bloomington, Illinois, was born in Hatley, one of the eastern townships of Lower Canada, then supposed, by the early settlers to be a part of the state of Vermont, on the 18th day of June, 1810. There he was reared to early manhood and received his common school education.

He received his college education in a Roman Catholic College near Montreal, Canada, and the finishing touches of his education at the noted seminary at Newbury, Vt. After mastering its curriculum he became its professor of mathematics.

He subsequently established a school at Atlanta, Ga. He came to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1844, and opened a school in the old academy building situated just north of the Judge Scott homestead.

He soon identified himself with the interest of the then growing village. In 1847 he was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Bloomington and in 1848 was elected president of the board.

He was elected mayor of the city of Bloomington and served during the year 1851.

He was a "Whig" in politics.

He established the Western Whig, a weekly political newspaper.

Perhaps the greatest act of his life was the founding of the Pantagraph, which still survives and which has done more for the advancement of the interests of the city of Bloomington than any other cause.

Today it stands the peer of any newspaper in the land, a fitting monument to those who have striven so arduously through years for its success.

At one time the subject of this sketch had amassed considerable wealth, but in later years misfortune overtook him; sickness struck down his beloved wife and then himself. He died May 24, 1888. He was a clean, pure-minded man. It was such men as he that left their character indelibly impressed upon the city of Bloomington during the times in which they lived.

We are indebted for much of the foregoing to Major W. Packard of Bloomington, Illinois.

COL. JOHN H. WICKIZER.

Col. John H. Wickizer, the third mayor of Bloomington, was born in Rome, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1821.

He came to Bloomington in the year 1847-48 and was its mayor during the year 1852.

He represented the county of McLean in the state legislature for several terms.

He was a lawyer by profession and attained considerable prominence in the law.

Abraham Lincoln was one of his personal friends and Col. Wickizer was assistant quartermaster of the U. S.; afterwards he was appointed superintendent of the United States railway mail service with headquarters in Utah in which office he remained for twelve years.

In 1876 Utah territory sent him as commissioner to the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia.

Afterwards he was appointed to an important position in the U. S. treasury department, remaining until the second election of President Cleveland.

The declining years of his life were spent with his daughter's family in Fayette, Ohio, where on November 3, 1889, he died after a long illness.

Col. Wickizer heeded the first call of his country at the commencement of Civil war and served it with honor and distinction. Together with Allan Withers and others he was one of the originators, patrons and life long subscribers to the Bloomington library.

It can be truly said of Col. Wickizer that he acquitted himself with honor and brilliancy in all the honorable positions which he occupied.

WILLIAM WALLACE.

(By Maria Lewis, His Granddaughter.)

William Wallace, born February 8, 1800, in Philadelphia, Pa., was one of nine children, he being the second of eight sons. He was named for his father, who came to this country when he was twenty, from Scotland, marrying a German lady of Pennsylvania shortly after his arrival.

When but a boy, William was apprenticed to a cooper and learned his trade, which he followed until he had laid up a large enough sum of money to go into the wholesale grocery business with his older brother John. Their trade was principally with the masters of ships, fitting out vessels for sea, and they also imported salt, which at that time was not made in this country. Somewhere near 1830 he was made sheriff of Philadelphia, which office he held for a number of years.

The close confinement in the warehouse office, and long hours, after a time told on his health, and it was feared he would die of consumption. Hearing that the west was a healthy country, he sold his business interest to his brother and came west in 1836. Staging it over the mountains, he

came by way of the lakes and landed in Chicago, where he intended to stay. Before purchasing any land, however, he met General A. Gridley who pursuaded him to come to the central part of the state. He came south with Mr. Gridley to what was then Blooming Grove and purchased 380 acres of land for $1.25 per acre, just west of where the Alton railroad comes into Bloomington today. The grove on his place was used for the county fair, and was afterwards purchased for the fair grounds, for which purpose it was used for a number of years, and is now the fair grounds addition to Bloomington.

Mr. Wallace soon became strong and well and his wife joined him after six months. They lived for two years in the log cabin which Mr. Wallace built, cutting the trees and rough hewing the logs himself. Then he built a frame house, hauling the lumber for it from Chicago. His crops for a number of years he hauled either to Chicago or St. Louis and sold. He raised wheat and always had a crop in those days when the snow lay on the ground from November to May. He had large flocks of sheep which needed much tending on account of the wolves. Usually two or three farmers would go together to market on account of the danger, and William Wallace and Isaac Funk always hauled their wheat and wool together. Returning they would bring the luxuries such as white sugar, wool dress goods, etc., the Blooming Grove market having nothing more than brown sugar and calico.

Mr. Wallace was strongly opposed to the "Fugitive Slave Law" and often aided slaves, that showed marks of rough and cruel handling, to their freedom. Owen Lovejoy came to Bloomington to make a speech on this law two days before his brother was shot at Alton, and Mr. Wallace attempted to open the Academy for the speech but was knocked down. Finding that it was impossible to use it, the meeting adjourned to the Congregational minister's house and the speech was made there. As a result the house of every Congregationalist was stoned the next day with the exception of Mr. Wallace's, who sent word to the leaders of the mob doing the stoning that they would have a warm reception when they got to his house.

In 1850 Mr. Wallace built his home in Bloomington, sold his farm and moved into town. The house still stands at 306 West Jefferson street. Mr. Wallace was mayor of Bloomington for two years, 1853 and 1854, and was elected under the "Maine Law," a law prohibiting the sale of liquors within the city limits.

He was the prime mover in the organizing of the Second Presbyterian church, writing the letter that brought Mr. Alfred Eddy, the first pastor of the church, to Bloomington, the organization being completed after his coming.

The manner of his death cannot be told in any better way than to quote from the issue of the Weekly Pantagraph published in February, 1857. "Died, on Wednesday evening, February 13, William Wallace, in the 57th year of his age. On the evening of his death Mr. Wallace went

from his office to his residence about sunset apparently in his usual health; after supper, he attended the weekly prayer meeting of his church, returned home, and in a few moments passed into eternity. He died sitting in his chair, from apoplexy of the heart. This inexplicable and astounding calamity convulsed our little city like the throes of an earthquake. To be thus cut off so suddenly in the very noon of his prosperity and of his varied usefulness and influence, was hardly to be believed by the people, and when distinctly known, was difficult to be borne. For many years he has been prominently and widely known and no man in our community will ever go down to his grave leaving behind him a fairer fame or a more endearing memory. Warmly esteemed by all who knew him for his animated and amiable social qualities, his frank and confiding nature, and for his unimpeachable integrity and fidelity and though so much valued and loved during his life his consequence and worth were scarcely half realized, until he had passed away. 'Who, in all things will fill the vacancy?' He was public spirited, liberal and accommodating and conferred a favor so graciously, that it seemed as if the opportunity afforded him to exert his friendship, was a great favor conferred on him, as the kindness granted by him, was a favor to the recipient. Every action of his was fresh from the heart, and strongly indicated his justice and devotion to his fellow men."

JOHN W. EWING.

John W. Ewing, the fifth mayor of Bloomington, was born on the 14th day of February, A. D. 1808, in Iredell county, N. C. He was of sturdy Scotch-Irish extraction. In 1816, with his father's family, he removed to southwestern Kentucky, locating near the present city of Hopkinsville.

He came to this county in 1835 and settled upon a farm about thirty miles northwest of Bloomington in what is now Woodford county.

He came to Bloomington in 1840 and Bloomington remained his home until the time of his death which occurred in November, 1855. From the very first he became identified with the growth and prosperity of the village, then containing a few hundred inhabitants. He was twice elected as one of the trustees of the town of Bloomington, once in 1848 and again in 1849.

In 1854 he was elected mayor of the city of Bloomington. He served the city faithfully and well and at the expiration of his first year as mayor on account of failing health declined a re-election which was tendered him.

Mr. Ewing was endowed with a vigorous intellect, high courage, a keen sense of justice and a generous heart.

He was prominent in the councils of his party. In politics he was a staunch Democrat.

He was the father of our esteemed fellow townsman, Hon. Jas. S. Ewing, who has done much to make prominent the fair name of Bloomington, Illinois.

Mr. Ewing was for some years a business partner of the late William F. Flagg. The mills and shops of Flagg & Ewing were located near the present site of the Big Four depot. Fifty years ago this firm did a large business and with the exception of the McCormick's of Chicago probably manufactured a greater quantity of farm machinery than any firm or company in the state. They attracted many excellent machinists to Bloomington and gave employment to a large number of men. Their reapers were in general use throughout central Illinois. This was the first of the great business enterprises known to our city. Its importance at the time and its influence upon the future to Bloomington cannot be overstated. It is not too much to say that to the business capacity, energy and public spirit of Mr. Ewing the city is debtor for much of its prosperity. His confidence in Bloomington's future was unbounded.

Mr. Ewing was a gentleman of the old school. Of unquestioned integrity, kind heart and pleasing manners. He was indeed an important factor in the community where his lot was cast. In the best sense of expression he was a leader of men. For the twenty years and more immediately preceding his death, no man exerted a more beneficial influence upon this community.

Mr. Ewing was one of the founders of the First Presbyterian church of Bloomington, and at the time of his death one of its ruling elders. He was more than once the representative of his church in its highest deliberative assemblies. He possessed in a marked degree the deep religious convictions of his Scotch-Irish ancestry. No one who knew him ever doubted for a moment his absolute sincerity.

The effort now being made to recall from the shadowy past something of the lives, character and sacrifices of the pioneers to whom this generation is so largely indebted, is worthy of all commendation. When the early history of our city and county shall have been fully written, no name will appear more worthy of grateful and enduring remembrances than that of the subject of this brief sketch.

FRANKLIN PRICE.

Franklin Price, the sixth and seventh mayor of the city of Bloomington, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, February 21, 1821. He came to Bloomington in 1849.

He was twice elected mayor of the city of Bloomington, once in 1855 and again in 1856, at that time the first mayor of Bloomington to serve more than one term as mayor of the city. During his term as mayor the fire department was organized and the police department of the city was abolished.

From 1861 to 1866 he held a prominent government position and during that time resided in Washington, D. C.

He lived in Bloomington until 1879 when he removed to Chicago, Illinois, where he still resides.

Mr. Price is a man of rare executive ability and has considerable talent for business. He laid out the towns of Stanford, McLean and Covel, in McLean county. At one time he was quite wealthy but afterwards lost considerable of his fortune in the Bloomington Gas Light and Coke Company. Until recently Mr. Price has been connected with the Chicago & Northwestern railway. Mr. Price is the oldest mayor of Bloomington. He was present at the celebration of the city's fiftieth anniversary and took part in the ceremonies.

We wish him many years more of usefulness and happiness.

AMASA J. MERRIMAN.

Amasa J. Merriman, the eighth, ninth and fourteenth mayor of Bloomington was born at Stanstead, Canada East, on December 1, 1818. His ancestors were English. He received his education at a common subscription school, but it was of the very best.

In 1839 he started for the west and came to Bloomington in 1839, via Chicago & Peoria. During his early years in Bloomington he conducted a mercantile business.

Mr. Merriman was thrice elected mayor of the city of Bloomington once in 1857 and again in 1858, and again in 1863.

Mr. Merriman was also elected county judge of McLean county. He was serving that capacity when the State Normal University was located at Normal and he materially assisted Jesse W. Fell in the latter's untiring efforts to locate the said university at Normal, Illinois. In politics he was a republican.

JOHN M. STILLWELL.

John M. Stillwell, the tenth, nineteenth and twentieth mayor of Bloomington, was born in Brookfield, New York, in January, 1814. He died in LeRoy, Illinois, September, 1891, and was buried in Bloomington, Ill.. The funeral services were conducted by the Free Masons. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in Norwalk, Ohio. Married in 1843 and removed to Defiance. Ohio, where he practiced law and held the office of probate judge until he, with his family, came to Bloomington in 1854. In April, 1859, he was elected mayor. He served as mayor for three years, having been re-elected in the years 1868 and 1869. Number 2 engine was bought during his term of office and a house built for it.

He was always an active member of Bloomington Lodge No. 43, A. F .and A. M., being Master of the lodge for many years.

HENRY S. HERR.

Henry S. Herr, the eleventh mayor of Bloomington, was born at Mt. Joy, Lancaster county, Pa., on September 17, 1817.

On May 1, 1850, Mr. Herr came to Bloomington. The trip was made by river and canal to Pekin and thence overland to this city. Mr. Herr occupied many positions of honor and trust during his life. For

some time he was engaged in the mercantile business in Bloomington, Illinois. He served one term as alderman of the first ward in 1855 and one term as mayor in 1860. He was then chosen justice of the peace of Bloomington township, an office which he held and creditably filled continuously, with the exception of one term, from that time until a short time before his death.

Mr. Herr attained great prominence in secret society circles. He was the founder of Remembrance Lodge No. 77, I. O. O. F., and Damon Lodge No. 10, K. of P., both of Bloomington, Illinois. In the Odd Fellows he was Grand Master of the State of Illinois and its grand representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States. In the Knights of Pythias he was a Past Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Illinois and one of its grand representatives.

Mr. Herr was a life long Republican and before that a staunch Whig. He was present at Major's Hall when the Republican party was organized.

Mr. Herr's son, Mr. Clayton C. Herr, is now and has been for some years, our valued and very efficient circuit court reporter.

Mr. Herr died in Bloomington, Illinois, on the third day of July, 1898. He was a man of strong force of character.

GEORGE PARKE.

George Parke, the twelfth and thirteenth mayor of Bloomington, was born in Cadiz, Kentucky, on May 6, 1826. His parents preceded him to Bloomington, Illinois, coming here in the thirties, Mr. Parke remaining in Kentucky until he was a young man. He was a staunch Republican and was twice elected mayor of Bloomington, serving during the years 1861 and 1862. He was also deputy sheriff and sheriff of McLean county, Illinois. Mr Parke died in Bloomington, Illinois, June 21, 1871. He was an honest, straightforward, conscientious Christian gentleman and carried his religion into his business affairs. His widow and several of his children still survive him.

JOEL DE PEW.

Joel DePew, the fifteenth mayor of Bloomington, was born August 7, 1812, in Botetourt county, Old Virginia. He moved to Indiana with his parents in 1816, in which state his father died. With his mother, he came to Illinois in 1837, and settled in Bloomington. He opened a cabinet shop on the corner of Front and East streets, where Mr. Gerken's bakery now stands, where he continued in the business for a number of years. He then built a factory in the hollow on South Albert street, where he continued to manufacture furniture. There he met with heavy loss by fire, but undaunted by reverses he rebuilt and continued the business for several years.

He was elected alderman in 1860 and in 1861. He was elected mayor in 1864. Served one term. In politics he was a Republican, a friend and

supporter of Abraham Lincoln. He was of a jovial nature, had a good word for everybody. He was a moral man and a lover of law and order. He died January 22, 1872.

E. H. ROOD.

Among the earlier mayors of Bloomington, Illinois, no more prominent a man occupied the mayor's chair than E. H. Rood.

A ramble through the municipal records of Bloomington will easily convince one of the ability displayed by Mr. Rood during his public service, as mayor of Bloomington.

He was mayor for the years ending April 30, 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1880.

His administrations were characterized by the many public improvements that were completed during that time. It was Mayor Rood who first agitated street pavements for Bloomington, although none were laid I believe during his early terms of office, he referred to it continually during his terms of office. The first steam fire engine was purchased during his second term of office.

He was born at Torringford, Litchfield county, Conn., September 29, 1825.

His father was a farmer and between the times he was needed on his father's farm until he was seventeen years of age, he gained a common school education. He then taught school for two years. In 1845 he came west to Farmington, Fulton county, Illinois. There he taught school and farmed for a few years.

In 1847 he married Melissa M. Budd. Both still survive. Their union was blessed with eleven children, four of whom are now living.

Mr. Rood came to Bloomington in 1851 and lived here till 1884. From 1865 to 1884 he was in the grain business in Bloomington and operated the elevator on Main street near the Big Four railroad. Here he prospered greatly. After leaving Bloomington he suffered financial losses that very nearly ruined him.

Mr. Rood was one of the most popular men in Bloomington during his time. Besides his four terms as mayor, he served ten years on the Bloomington board of education. He was elected county clerk in 1853, serving four years. He has recently been appointed city collector for the city of Bloomington.

THOMAS J. BUNN.

Thomas J. Bunn, the twenty-first and twenty-eighth mayor of Bloomington, was the son of one of the pioneers of Bloomnigton, Lewis Bunn. He was born at Xenia, O., August 29, 1833. When six months old, he came with his parents to Bloomington where he has ever since resided, and where by turns he has been printer, blacksmith, dry goods clerk, land agent, speculator and politician, holding at one time or another nearly every office in the township and city. He was alderman of the second ward in 1868-1869, and mayor of the city of Bloomington in 1870 and again in 1877.

The most important action of the city while he was mayor, was procuring a special act of the legislature authorizing the city to issue $55,000 bonds to purchase additional room for the shops of the Chicago & Alton R. R. which had burned down.

But Mr. Bunn's greatest service to Bloomington was his connection with the discovery of coal and incidentally of the water supply of Bloomington. At the request of the Historical Society, he has furnished the following article, which we deem it proper to insert as a part of this sketch.

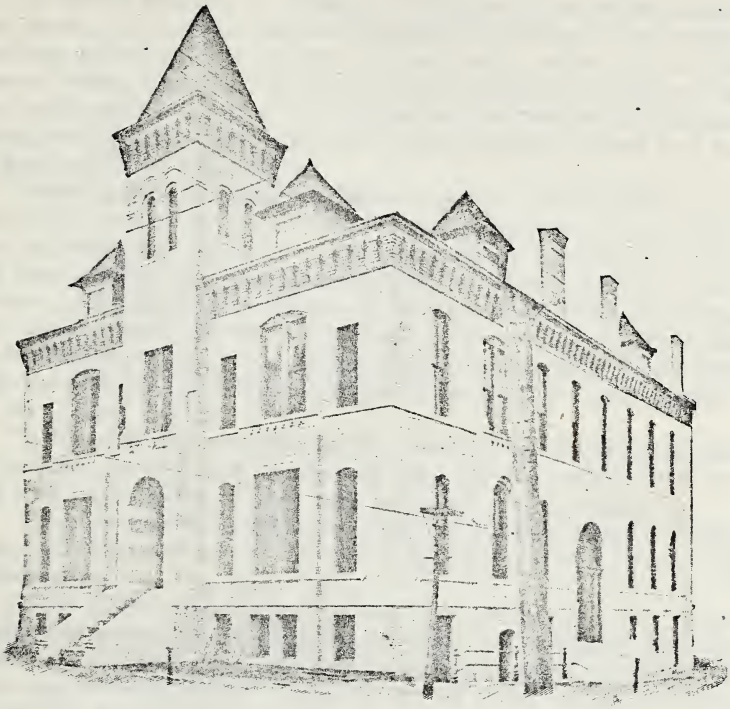
"Messrs. Prince and Burnham.

"DEAR SIRS:—Believing a more detailed account of the discovery of coal in the city of Bloomington would interest the citizens of our city, I suggest the following recollections, which if added to the article published by Capt. J. H. Burnham in the History of McLean county, Illinois, in 1875—pages 383 and 384, would give the present residents of our city an idea of the trials and tribulations incident to the discovery of coal thirty-five years ago. It is quite a severe tax upon memory to write the incidents in consecutive or date order, in fact I cannot promise it; however, the main features are as fresh in my memory as if they happened yesterday.

"I well remember calling together the party mentioned, in July, 1866, for the purpose of canvassing the probabilities and possibilities of a third trial toward the discovery of coal. We were confronted at the beginning with the fact that Mr. Eliel Barber, who was selected by the city council, had made an examination in 1863, boring to the depth of over five hundred feet. Mr. Barber reported going through a thin vein of "black shale slate" at a depth of 302 feet. With this report the matter was dropped. A second trial by other parties resulted in losing the boring tools after reaching a depth of 160 feet. During the conversation it was remembered that Professor Wilber and Dr. E. R. Roe, both of whom were eminent geologists, insisted that good veins of coal underlaid the entire state south of the Kankakee river.

"We also knew that Bloomington was surrounded with good coal mines. Danville on the east, Gardner on the north, Peoria on the west and DuQuoin on the south. It was finally decided to make the trial although the prospects were somewhat cloudy. It is said every cloud has a silver lining; in this cloud, it was difficult to discover the lining. At this date the bulk of the coal used in Bloomington, came from DuQuoin and brought from $12 to $14 per ton.

"Our first move was in leasing about 400 acres of land near what is now the city water works; we purchased a new set of tools from Pittsburg, Pa., at a cost of $1,000, built a shed room, bought a blind horse, secured the services of George W. Darling as superintendent, and commenced work. The tools used were similar to those used by Mr. Barber, except the drills were part of them solid, and part hollow, using the solid drills to



CITY HALL, BLOOMINGTON.

penetrate rock formations and the hollow drills when soft material was met. Permit me to say the kind of tools used was the secret of our success. If Mr. Barber had used the same kind he would have found a four-foot vein of good coal at the depth of 302 feet—it will be remembered that at this point he reported a thin vein of "black shale slate;" using only a solid drill, he could not have known the depth or character of the material gone through.

"It was at midnight of February 27, 1867, when our superintendent, Mr. Darling, came to my house and notified me he believed he had reached coal, that he had gone through the rock and struck a softer material, that the rod indicated 302 feet. When we reached the shanty he pulled out the rod, exchanged the solid rod, for a hollow one, returned the rod and continued the boring five minutes and again lifted the rod and found four feet of pure coal in the hollow drill.

"While we were satisfied, the difficulty was to convince others; to do this a shaft must be put down. This was expensive and we had no money, our last dollar was in the hole. To secure the funds we gave one-half the mine. When the shaft was completed to the vein of coal, it was amusing and tantalizing to witness the actions and criticisms of the people. Some insisted that the coal if found was a small vein, others that we had "salted" the mine, *i. e.*, hauled the coal in the night and then lifted it in the morning, others again said that it was the "slate shale" reported by Mr. Barber, etc., etc.

"It was only after we had secured a committee of prominent citizens to go down the shaft with miners and witnessed the cutting of the vein and took measurements of same that the people were convinced.

"From this time we continued to mine and sell coal, lifting from fifty to two hundred tons per day. I was superintendent of the mine for the following year.

"Soon after we commenced mining and selling coal, other parties commenced arrangements to sink another shaft. We thought at that time that one shaft could supply the demand of Bloomington and offered the new company inducements to join with us, but it was the old, old story, the big fish ate the little ones. We got the experience and they got the money.

"In connection with the discovery of coal, followed the city water, which in value equaled the coal. We found in the attempt to sink the coal shaft, an insuperable barrier in the way of water; after three months' trial were compelled to abandon the shaft. It was our intention to put down the coal shaft as near the C. & A. R. R. as possible for convenience of shipping.

"In our effort to conquer the water many weary days and nights were spent without any appreciable gain. Finally I visited Chicago and secured an interview with Professor Gindale, who was at that time, the chief engineer of the water works of Chicago. He became interested in "The underground lake" and proferred to make an examination which he did,

bringing with him two steam pumps, each one throwing two five inch streams of water. After a week's trial with the pumps, assisted by the fire engine and barrel attachments, with but little gain, upon the water, Mr. Gindale advised us to abandon the trial. We estimated the capacity of the well at 2,000,000 gallons per day.

"We then made an effort to avoid the stream of water, by boring in different localities, going north, south and east of the trial place, but taking the difference in elevation found the water at same depth. Turning west we missed the stream and completed what is known as the Old North Shaft.

"We do not think it presumptive in claiming the right of discovery of coal and water in the city of Bloomington, and when we contemplate the results coming from the discovery, its value to our city is incalculable. The magnificent waterworks, the varied and numerous manufacturing establishments, the perfect and extensive system of sewerage and the general commerce of our city are but evidences of the benefits derived.

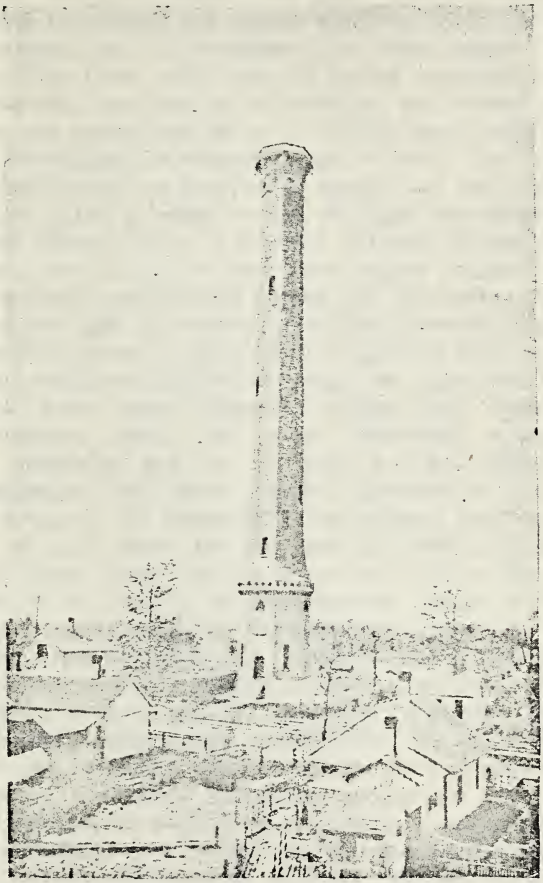
"Sometime in the future when the Historical Society of the city of Bloomington deem it necessary to publish a book entitled "Bloomington and its makers," modest mention of the coal and water boys of 1866 and 1867 will not be neglected."

Mr. Bunn still resides in Bloomington and is an honored and respected citizen of our city whose interest he has always had at heart.

BENJAMIN F. FUNK.

(By Ira Merchant.)

Bloomington from 1850 to the present time has had many mayors, all good business men; but in length of service; the unanimity of his selection to serve the several terms for which he was elected; the importance of the public improvements which had their inception under his administration and were great factors in Bloomington's improvement, Benjamin F. Funk, like Leigh Hunt's creation Abou Ben Adhem, "led all the rest." He was born October 17, 1838, the seventh son of Isaac and Cassandra Funk, who were pioneers and builders of this, the largest county of the state of Illinois. He worked from boyhood on the farm; a selection by his father of over twenty thousand acres of the cream of Illinois agricultural lands located in Funk's Grove township. He was educated at the Illinois Wesleyan University and was married August 21, 1865, to Miss Sarah J. Hamilton and removed to Bloomington in 1867 and built the home at 1008 North Main street in which they have resided up to the present time. A son, Frank H., was born in April, 1869. He is a progressive farmer and stockman and resides at 907 North McLean street. Mr. Funk's first entry in political life was his election as a member of the board of supervisors of McLean county from Normal township, where he served in the years 1868 and 1869. Mr. Funk was first elected mayor of Bloomington in 1871 and served successively five years It was



STANDPIPE, BLOOMINGTON.

during these years that the system of public improvements which Bloomington is proud of was started and pushed well along toward a point where work for the future would be simplified. The pavements started under Mayors Stillwell and Bunn were extended. The first sewer was constructed in his early administration and continued from year to year on both main lines and laterals. The most important improvement of the city, which was started, and without which the sewers and pavements would be valueless, was the development of a water supply. Tests were made along Sugar Creek valley, from the Market street road entering the city from the west, northeasterly to beyond the east Normal corporation line; and it was decided that the water bearing strata, under the valley would give Bloomington an abundant supply of water. The city well was dug in the fall of 1874; was forty feet in diameter and was originally sunk to a depth of 28 feet 5 inches, through the upper vein of gravel; after which a pipe eighteen inches in diameter was sunk through gravel and blue clay to a lower stream of water, which largely increased the supply. The pumping works were built and a stand pipe, eight feet in diameter and two hundred feet high was constructed on the top of the ridge south of the well, which has given the city the best of equalized water pressure ever since. Water mains were distributed through the streets and the business district was given ample protection against fire. These improvements, pavements, sewers and water distribution, together with permanent sidewalks, had to be paid for by special tax or special assessments, and those assessed contended in the courts—the confirmation of the assessments. Bloomington established legally the status of such cases for the state of Illinois, by carrying the cases to the higher courts—and the towns and cities of Illinois are indebted today to Mr. Funk for his administration initiative in establishing the principle of legally paying for municipal improvements by special tax or assessment. And Bloomington is indebted to him for his casting vote in the city council making it possible to construct the water works. The brick pavements for street purposes came from his granting the privilege to repair decayed Nicholson with vitrified brick. His action while mayor in 1884 and 1885 was in line with his first five years of service. The interests of the city were closely looked after, and he went out of office with a record of receiving the nomination seven times by acclamation, and declining a nomination twice. Besides this he was elected a representative in congress from the old fourteenth district in 1892, and was an energetic and serviceable member of that body, popular with members of both parties. He has given to the state of Illinois eight years' service on the board of trustees of the asylum for the blind in Jacksonville; and in addition to his services as mayor in Bloomington has served for years on the board of trustees of the Wesleyan University. As presiding officer his record for fair treatment has not been excelled. As a business man his service has been for economy and judicious expenditure. At any and all times whether serving the people at Washington, Springfield, or his home

city of Bloomington, he has well earned the title of Honest Ben Funk. To his wife he gives credit for being his efficient helper, adviser, and the giver of cordial support in all of his business and political life.

ELISHA B. STEERE.

(From Weekly Pantagraph, November 27, 1891.)

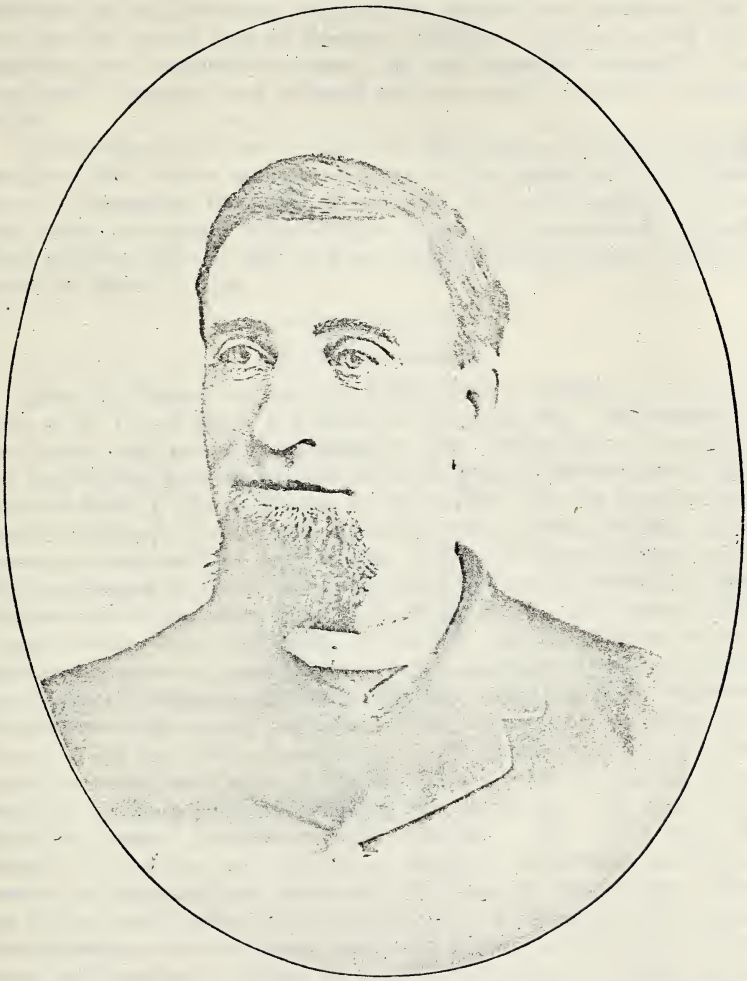
Elisha B. Steere was born near Dorr's Battle Ground, R. I., September 12, 1822. His father was a tanner and moved to Lawrence, Otsego, New York, and engaged in the shoe trade and in the manufacture of harness. Mr. Steere's mother was a native of Kentucky. Mr. Steere began life as a clerk in a dry goods store and when twenty years of age he became a partner of his employer. Soon after he engaged in the business wholly on his own account. Later he was engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes and also of cooperage butter firkins and steel hammers and acquired a neat fortune.

In 1861, Mr. Steere moved to Bloomington and for thirty years was a prominent citizen of this city. He was for five years in the dry goods business being connected with the Elephant store, number 318 Center street, and number 210 West Jefferson street. He then handled jewelry for five years, being a member of the firm of Gillett & Steere. After this he was engaged in the manufacture of burial caskets. Was prominent in the North Coal Shaft enterprise and in the Chair Factory Company and later the Walton Plow Works. Was a stockholder in the People's Bank and successfully engaged in mining in Missouri. Energy to do, clear perception, rare executive ability and business sense characterized every phase of his business career.

Mr. Steere was for many years one of the most popular Republicans of Bloomington. He was alderman of the first ward from 1870 to 1874 and mayor from 1875 to 1876 and 1878 to 1879. His name was invincible when the city was closely divided politically. His career as a public official was notable and memorable. While he was mayor, much of the work was done which resulted in the erection at a moderate cost of the basis of our present system of water works. He died at Bloomington, Illinois, November 24, 1891.

COL. JOHN REED.

Col. John Reed is one of Bloomington's most notable ex-mayors. During his administration many important permanent public improvements were undertaken; in fact, it was during Mayor Reed's incumbency that Bloomington first began to respond to the impulse of the spirit of enterprise and progress, and to assume the habiliaments of the metropolis. Col. John Reed has always been regarded as one of the most energetic and public-spirited of Bloomington's business men and his services to the city, both as alderman and mayor, were invaluable. Col. Reed, beside being himself the gallant commander of an Ohio regiment in the Civil war, comes from a distinguished revolutionary line of soldier pa-



JOHN W. TROTTER.

triots, while his grandfather was a brother of that Reed who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His grandfather, Col. James Reed, son of Col. John Reed, was born in Delaware in 1743 and died in Philadelphia December 31, 1822, in his eightieth year. He was a lieutenant in the Continental army and for bravery and meritorious services on the historic field of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown, was promoted to colonel. He was otherwise honored by the Continental Congress, being invested with sole power to conduct the navy board.

Colonel Reed was elected mayor of Bloomington and served during the year 1878. For a number of years he was supervisor of McLean county, representing Bloomington township. He was a member of that body when the present splendid court house was commenced. Colonel Reed was born June 1, 1828, in Ross county, Ohio, and came to Bloomington on March 17, 1868.

JOHN W. TROTTER.

(By Ira Merchant.)

John W. Trotter was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1833. He came to the United States and settled in Illinois in 1850. He engaged in the lumber, coal and grain business on West Market street, Bloomington, in 1866, and gave the business his active personal attention until 1889, when he made a trip to Europe for his health. He was stricken with paralysis while in Europe and returning home he was confined to his house an invalid until his death in 1892. He was first elected alderman in 1873 to represent the second ward and served continuously until May, 1879. His first service was under Hon. B. F. Funk, mayor, and continued with Mayors Steere, Bunn and Reed. In his first year as alderman he was appointed to serve on important committees—chairman of claims—a member of general improvements and at that time one of the most important committees of the council, and others. The improvement committee had charge of all the details connected with the construction of the water works, from the initial move in sinking the well to the completion of the work as originally planned, including the stand pipe. He gave every detail his careful consideration and attention. He was a busy alderman, the last two years serving as chairman of improvements and a member of police and gas, streets and alleys and the water board. During his six years' service he was recognized by the mayors and his associate aldermen as an intelligent, honest and faithful servant of his constituents, well qualified to advise, or assist in all matters pertaining to the government of the city. In 1881 he was elected mayor and re-elected in 1882 and 1883 In his first inaugural address Mayor Trotter in saying "The people in electing an alderman expect that the businss of the city should be looked after in a business like manner," gave the key note of his own action, running through his whole service as alderman and mayor. With him there was but

little of taking some person's word for it and all matters referred to his committee or coming under his jurisdiction had a careful personal examination. When the Graham street sewer was built through the Chicago & Alton yards it was largely by his personal efforts that the authorities of that railroad paid liberally for the construction without the formality and cost of a special assessment, the whole city together with the second ward was benefited by his old-fashioned methodical characteristics as applied to municipal affairs. His capacity for making friends and holding them was unlimited and a great many persons at present can remember that friendship with him meant all that the name implies. The writer of this was associated with him during his terms as alderman and mayor. Knew him as a courteous gentleman, always kind and considerate, ever even tempered, honest to a degree and one who promised only to fulfill. There may have been better men, but those that are as good are the salt of the earth.

MAYOR THOMAS.

The present mayor of Bloomington enjoys the unique distinction of having served the city as mayor and alderman for a longer period of time than any other mayor in its history. He was alderman of the fourth ward for year ending 1880-1881-1882-1883-1884-1885 and mayor for years ending 1886-1887-1888-1900-1901-1902-1903, making thirteen years of service for his home city, nine years of which was continuous service.

This is not strange when one knows the qualities of his life. A man of honor and integrity, genial and whole-souled, he has won the respect of the citizens of Bloomington and by no act of his will he lose it. He is distinctly a Bloomington product, having been born in Bloomington, Illinois, on the 27th day of September, the year 1838. He was a son of William Thomas, one of the early pioneers of Bloomington, who came to Bloomington from Zenia, Ohio, in 1835. He was educated in the common schools of Bloomington, in the Wesleyan University, at Jubilee College, near Peoria, Illinois, and at Antioch College, Antioch, Ohio. For forty-four years the subject of this sketch has been engaged in the insurance business in the same block in Bloomington, Illinois.

As an evidence of the high esteem that Mayor Thomas is held by all classes of Bloomington citizens, without regard to party affiliations I refer to the presentation to him during the past year of the magnificent gold star set with a large solitaire diamond. This beautiful token was the gift of his friends and did not originate with any of his appointees.

Mayor Thomas is a progressive man, alive to the needs of our city.

His various terms as mayor have been characterized by important events. Perhaps the greatest event connected with the city's history occuring during his first term of office was the purchase of Miller Park by the city of Bloomington. The vote upon this important matter stood a tie and Mayor Thomas, in his wisdom, cast the deciding vote in favor of the purchase of Bloomington's now famous Miller Park.

Mayor Thomas' present term as mayor is characterized by the greatest awakening that has ever been known to Bloomington.

These are indeed wonderful and prosperous times for Bloomington. The city is booming. Not a mushroom growth but a conservative, healthy, forward movement is everywhere apparent.

Public improvements of all kinds are being built. Three new fire stations are now in process of erection, costing in the neighborhood of $45,000. The great Valley sewer, guaranteeing protection from contamination to Bloomington's water supply has been but recently completed at a cost of some $16,000. The great west slough sewer has been extended at a cost of some $10,000. The southeast slough sewer extension is now being constructed at a cost of $14,000.

But recently a large area adjoining the eastern corporate limits of the city was annexed to the city. New additions to the city are being platted and lots therein being sold almost as quickly as offered. Another important event that is now taking place and which will resound to the credit of the city fathers in time to come, is the burial of all overhead wires in the business portion of Bloomington.

During Mayor Thomas' administration the first asphalt pavement was laid in Bloomington.

The great dam at Miller Park, costing in the neighborhood of $18,000 was also commenced and completed during Mayor Thomas' term of office.

Many streets have been opened and extended at considerable expense. Mr. Thomas is a man of liberal ideas.

He is fearless in the discharge of his duties. In addition to his valuable services to the municipality, we may point to fourteen years' honorable service on the Board of Education of the city of Bloomington.

As a leader of men, a politician, Mr. Thomas is indeed in the front rank. He is true to his friends and this, together with his genial and affable ways—and his strict honor and integrity, have won for him the laurels that he so easily and unaffectedly wears.

JUDSON R. MASON.

Judson R. Mason was born in Oswego county, New York, September 5, 1841. He was educated at the academy in Vermillion, New York. In 1865 he came to Bloomington, Illinois, and at once identified himself with the business interests of the rapidly growing city.

The most of his business life was spent in the insurance business, both life and fire. He was at one time proprietor of the Bloomington Daily Leader.

He was elected alderman of the first ward and served two years and in 1889 and 1890 was mayor of Bloomington. During his term as mayor, the present municipal electric lighting plant was purchased.

Many miles of streets were paved and the fire department was changed to a fully paid department during his term as mayor.

In 1890 he removed to Chicago, where he resided until the time of his death on July 6, 1901.

CHRISTIAN F. KOCH.

C. F. Koch was born in Eoslingen, Wurtumberg, Germany, on March 17, 1849. Yet Mr. Koch is a Bloomington product, his father having emigrated to America and having come to Bloomington when Mr. Koch was but a small child.

Mr. Koch is one of Bloomington's foremost German Americans. For years he has conducted a retail grocery in this city. From time to time he has been connected with public enterprises. He is a public spirited citizen with the welfare of Bloomington always at heart.

He served his ward in the city council during the years 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, and his city as mayor during the years 1891, 1898, 1899.

Both of Mr. Koch's administrations as mayor were characterized by strict economy. Both times when he left the mayor's chair the popular verdict was that he had been true to his trust and had managed the city wisely and well. His first nomination for mayor was made without opposition.

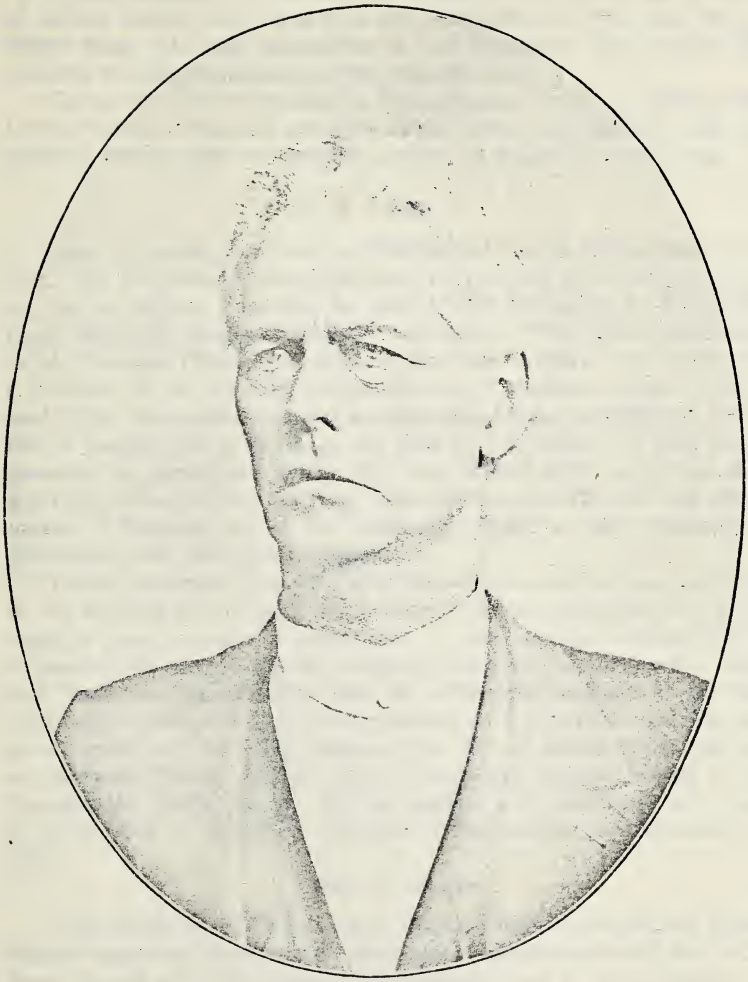
During his first term of office he saved the city many thousands of dollars in his treatment of the contract of purchase of the present municipal electric lighting system.

During his second term of office the city hall was rebuilt. The valley sewer contracted for. Thousands of dollars of pavement, sewers and water mains were laid. Yet at the close of his term of office, the financial condition of the city was at its very best. He was the first mayor after the reorganization of the city under the general law. This made his labors double that of his predecessors. He gave much of his time to his duties as mayor, giving personal supervision to all of the departments. Mr. Koch is the soul of honor. His public life has been of the very best.

DANIEL T. FOSTER.

Daniel T. Foster was born in Waitsfield, Vermont, on July 22, 1841. He was employed in the capacity of a farmer, until fifteen years of age, then until nineteen years of age was employed on the Vermont Central railroad in the capacity of engineer. Enlisted in the Volunteer service of the U. S. for three months, in the 2nd Vermont Infantry; at the expiration of term of service, veteranized by enlisting in the 10th Vermont Infantry and at the close of the war was mustered out, July 29, 1865, at Bells Cross Roads, Va., as Captain of Company B. He returned to his native state, and after two years' residence, removed to the city of Bloomington, Ill. Captain Foster was engaged for a number of years in operating the bus line in Bloomington.

He represented the first ward in the city council as alderman during the years of 1890 and 1891. In the year 1892 he was elected on the Republican ticket as mayor. He was re-elected mayor for the years of 1893-1894. After an interval of two years was again elected mayor in the year



NAPOLEON B. HEAFER.

of 1897. This, in addition to serving as superintendent of streets, during the years of 1899 and 1900, completed his political career.

The electric light building was constructed during his terms of alderman and mayor.

It may be proper to mention that to Captain Foster belongs the credit of having broken the first sod in the construction of the new dam in Miller Park. He had supervision of that important improvement that can only be fully appreciated in the years to come.

Captain Foster was married in Bloomington, October 5, 1867, to Miss Lovila Walton, who still survives. Their union was blessed with two children, one son and one daughter, neither of which are now living.

GEO M. SMITH.

Geo. M. Smith was born in Washington county, Ohio, January 21, 1845. He was one of eleven children, all but one of whom were over six feet in height. In 1855 he moved with his father to Springville, Iowa, where the family resided for nine years. From there they moved to Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and from thence here in 1883. Mr. Smith was a graduate of the Western Medical Reserve, a medical college at Cleveland, Ohio, and commenced the practice of medicine in 1866 and continued to practice the same up to the time of his death. He was an eye specialist of pronounced ability. He was elected alderman of the sixth ward and served during the years 1890 and 1891 as such. He was elected mayor of Bloomington on the independent ticket in 1891 defeating his Republican and Democratic opponents.

During his term as mayor the Withers Public Library was purchased by the city and the city well was lowered to its present depth, and to this work he gave his personal supervision. It was also that during his term as mayor that the air lift was adopted at the city water works. These two important facts, together with the subsequent purchase of the large Worthington pump with its daily capacity of four million gallons, then greatly perfected the water system of the city of Bloomington. He was a prominent Mason, having several times been elected master of the Bloomington Lodge No. 43. He was popular with all classes and a man of great force of character. He died in Bloomington on November 17, 1896.

EDGAR M. HEAFER.

With Edgar M. Heafer's term of office as mayor of the city of Bloomington began that great era of permanent improvements that has yet to know its end and from present indications that end is yet far away.

Mayor Heafer was strictly a business mayor. During his term of office nearly two miles of brick pavement was constructed, costing $50,570.62 and contracts for the construction of other pavements amounting to $131,033 were entered into.

The first lake in Miller Park was constructed during his term of office.

The great improvements in the machinery at the water works, contracted for during his predecessors's term of office, were installed and paid for during his term. Mr. Heafer had advanced ideas in the water question and had his ideas been followed, I dare say the question would be permanently settled at this time.

Mr. Heafer was born in Jamestown, Ky., on the 20th day of March, 1851. He came to Bloomington with his parents in 1853. He was educated in the public schools and the Illinois Wesleyan University.

He is now one of Bloomington's prominent business men. He is the proprietor of the Heafer tile factory, one of Bloomington's leading commercial enterprises. Mr. Heafer made a good mayor. He is an honorable, upright citizen. In politics he has always been a staunch Republican.

Other City Officials.

The success of municipal government depends not alone upon the mayors and city councils of a city, but also upon the ministerial officers of a city as well.

That future generations may know in whose hands the various city offices of our city have been since its foundation, I have searched the city records for the names and give the same below.

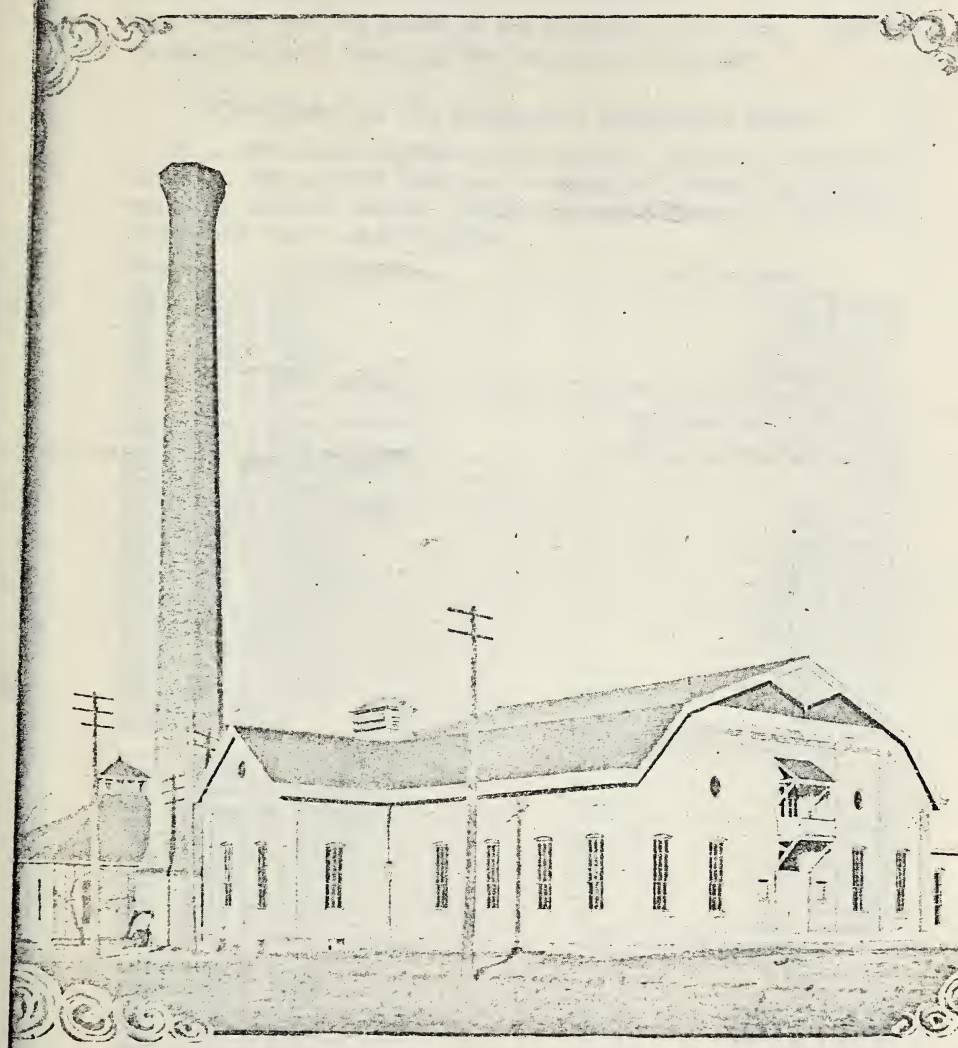
The city commenced business with a city clerk who also performed the duties of city attorney; a treasurer, four superintendents of streets or street supervisors as they were then called, one for each ward, and a city marshal.

The other offices of our city have since been created as necessity has required.

As the reader glances over the lists of names of the city officers, he cannot help but feel that they are indeed rolls of honor.

Of the many who have occupied positions of honor and trust in our city but one person was ever guilty of violating his sacred trusts, and his defalcations only amounted to a few hundred dollars. Such a record as that is but one of the evidences of the stability of popular government.

I first give the names of the city clerks of Bloomington. Commencing with that illustrious citizen of Bloomington, John M. Scott, deceased, afterwards supreme justice of Illinois and ending with our present efficient and courteous clerk, C. C. Hassler, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing intimately all my life, and whose poems have already made for him quite a reputation as a writer. Together with the city clerks are the names of the city



WATERWORKS, BLOOMINGTON.

attorneys in whose hands the legal affairs of our city have been placed from time to time. It will be seen from this roll of names that Bloomington has certainly been well advised. Many of these men having been the leaders of the McLean County Bar. I feel it no small honor to have been the successor of these men.

City Clerks and City Attorneys of Bloomington, Illinois.

From 1850 to 1861 the office of city clerk and city attorney were combined. In 1862 and 1863 there was no regular city attorney, an attorney was hired whenever needed. During this period Thomas F. Tipton did considerable legal work for the city.

YEAR.	CITY CLERK.	CITY ATTORNEY.
1851	John M. Scott	John M. Scott
1852	John M. Scott	John M. Scott
1853	John M. Scott	John M. Scott
1854	John M Scott	John M. Scott
1855	James C. Walker	James C. Walker
1856	John M. Scott	John M. Scott
1857	John M. Scott, resigned	Wm. W. Orme to fill vacancy
1858	Wm. W. Orme	Wm. W. Orme
1859	Wm. W. Orme, resigned	Harvey Hogg to fill vacancy
1860	Harvey Hogg	Harvey Hogg
1861	Harvey Hogg, resigned	O. T. Reeves Jr. to fill vacancy
1862	O. T. Reeves elected	None
1863	J. N. Larrimore	None
1864	Charles Truckenbrodt	Jesse Birch
1865	Charles Truckenbrodt	Jesse Birch
1866	Zach Lawrence	Jesse Birch
1867	John W. Compton	Hudson Burr
1868	John W. Compton	Hudson Burr
1869	John W. Compton	Walter M. Hatch
1870	John W. Compton	Walter M. Hatch
1871	J. L. Spaulding	John M. Stillwell
1872	W. B. Lawrence	Joseph W. Fifer
1873	W. B. Lawrence	Ira J. Bloomfield
1874	W. B. Lawrence	Ira J. Bloomfield
1875	W. B. Lawrence	Ira J. Bloomfield
1876	W. B. Lawrence	Ira J. Bloomfield
1877	E. S. Perry	B. D. Lucas
1878	E. S. Perry	Robert McCart resigned, William E. Hughes to fill vacancy.
1879	Samuel W. Waddle	T. C. Kerrick
1880	Samuel W. Waddle	B. D. Lucas
1881	Samuel W. Waddle	T. C. Kerrick
1882	Samuel W. Waddle	B. D. Lucas
1883	Samuel W. Waddle	J. T. Lillard
1884	Samuel W. Waddle	J. T Lillard
1885	Samuel W. Waddle	T. C. Kerrick
1886	Joseph A. Thomas	W. E. Gapen
1887	Rolla N. Evans	A. E DeMange
1888	Rolla N. Evans	A. E. DeMange
1889	Rolla N. Evans	A. E. DeMange
1890	Rolla N. Evans	A. E. DeMange resigned, Sain Welty to fill vacancy.
1891	Rolla N. Evans	Sain Welty
1892	Rolla N. Evans	Sain Welty
1893	Rolla N. Evans	Jacob P. Lindley
1894	Rolla N. Evans	Jacob P Lindley
1895	Rolla N. Evans	Jacob P. Lindley
1896	Rolla N. Evans	Jacob P. Lindley
1897	Rolla N. Evans	Jacob P. Lindley
1898	Rolla N. Evans	William R. Bach
1899	Rolla N. Evans	William R. Bach
1900	C. C Hassler	William R. Bach
1901	C. C. Hassler	William R Bach
1902	C. C. Hassler	Miles K. Young
1903	C. C. Hassler	Miles K. Young

City Treasurers of the City of Bloomington.

Year ending April 30.	Names.
1851-2	Simon B. Brown
1853	Dr. E. Thomas, R. O. Warriner
1854	R. O. Warriner
1855	Wm. Gillespie
1856-7	R. O. Warriner
1858	Benjamin Haines
1859	W. L. Shaffer
1860	A. J. Merriman, Harry P. Merriman
1861	A. H. Brown
1862	B. F. Haines
1863	L. B. Thomas
1864	T. J. Bunn
1865	R. W. Dibble
1866-7-8-9	C. C. Schneider
1870	Jesse Birch
1871	W. B. Lawrence
1872-3	Geo. Klein
1874-5	Wm. Ollis
1876	C. B. Perrigo
1877	Wm. Ollis
1878	A. S. Eddy
1879	A. Bennecke removed. Amasa J. Merriman to fill vacancy
1880	C. W. Robinson
1881	Wm. Thomas
1882-3	H. P. Seibel
1884	Geo H. Miller
1885	Matt. C. Smith
1886	Rudolph Lederer
1887 to 97	Matt. C Smith
1898-9	C. C. Hassler
1900-1	Harley J White
1902-3	H. L. Denison

Financial Statistics.

YEAR.	EXPENDITURES.	INDEBTEDNESS.	TAXES.
1851	$ 880.22		$ 770 10
1852			3,706.71
1853			
1854	847.36		1,918.14
1855	4,675.95		
1856			
1857			
1858		$ .50 on	100.00
1859	16,462.44	.50 on	100.00
1860		.50 on	100.00
1861	15,187.95	.50 on	100 00
1862	10,148.17	.50 on	100.00
1863	15,102.23	.50 on	100.00
1864	13,689.92	.50 on	100.00
1865	22,238.10	$ 3,000.00 .50 on	100.00
1866	23,043.09	12,865 15 .50 on	100.00
1867	30,462.65	6,497.08 .50 on	100.00
1868	58,214.05	51.860 73 1.45 on	100.00
1869	53,685.97	59,068.06 1.45 on	100.00
1870	104,537.31	98,549.00 2.70 on	100.00
1871	118,532.49	91,181.00 2 70 on	100 00
1872	157,687.93	111,529.09 2.25 on	100.00
1873	150,632.03	99,862.73 3.40 on	100.00
1874	123,830.52	81,552.64	99,750.00
1875	103 893.57	128,839.63	70,000.00
1876	148,740.97	133,852.79	75,000.00
1877	130,861.57	127,724.66	70,000.00
1878	108 827.23	122,900.00	62,000.00
1879	113,418.41		52 000.00
1880	96,439.16		62 000.00
1881	82,955.80		62,500.00
1882	110,953.75		62,500.00
1883	91,544.67		62,500.00
1884	116,762.75		
1885	134,554.77	87,500.00	72,500 00
1886	169,966 84	87,500.00	72,500 00
1887	182,856.60	87,500.00	72,500.00
1888	242,760 52	87,500.00	79,600.00
1889	157,105.00	87,500.00	79,917.06
1890	195,741.34	135,150.15	78,086.50
1891	197,893.67	122,500.00	110,223.76
1892	219,466.26		110 982.83
1893	182,145.25	128,553.10	101,780.82
1894	186,141 44	112,000.00	98,302.86
1895	194,995.55	about 111,466.45	110,813.63

CITY OFFICIALS OF BLOOMINGTON.

1. Dr. A. W. Meyer. 2. E. H. Rood. 3. Elmer Folsom.
4. C. C. Hassler. 5. Miles K. Young.
6. F. L. Lang. 7. L. B Thomas. 8. Henry Mayer.
9. H. L. Denison. 10. L. F. Rittmiller.

YEAR.	EXPENDITURES.	INDEBTEDNESS.	TAXES.
1896	$242,157.10	$ 94,200.00	$110,356.10
1897	242,989.83	96,500.00	106,954.67
1898	228,515.60	.....	108,434.50
1899	243,125.83	112,600.85	101,583.00
1900	290,846.75	97,145.38	101,000.00
1901	243,228.19	145,400.00	104,700.00
1902	265,534.22	179,025.00	105,600.00
1903	Year unfinished.....	.....	117,000.00

NOTE—The receipts for 1902 includes $2,400 temporary loan; $35,652 from sale of bonds; $18,004.79 water rents; $39,114 from saloons; $3,276.60 other licenses.

The principal items of expenses were, public library, $8,051.69; superintendent of streets, $32,011.30; paving, $8,713.11; sewerage, $12,962.48; sidewalks, $4,610.11; fire department, $30,510.04; police department, $27,751.32; water works, $18,643.36; electric light, $20,461.86, health department, $13,002.54; general salaries, $7,485.75; bonds, $5,-980; general indebtedness, $56,382.

In addition there was collected by special assessment for pavements, $50,887.25; for sewers, $5,754.43; for sidewalks, $———.

In addition there are township, county and state taxes.

Street Commissioners of Bloomington, Illinois.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.	
1851	1st Ward.....John Dawson 2nd Ward.....Reece Babb 3rd Ward.....George D. McElhiney 4th Ward.....A. Gridley	Street Supervisors.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1852	William McCullough Resigned—Geo. McElhiney to fill vacancy
1953	L. E. Rucker
1854	Allin Withers—resigned—Leonard R. Flanders to fill vacancy
1855	Leonard R. Flanders—removed Elijah DePew to fill vacancy
1856-7	Ephraim Platte
1858	David B. Wright
1859-60	Hiram Merriman
1861-2	T. F. Mitchell
1863	Rudolph Richter
1864	Alonzo Sargent
1865	Thomas Doyle—died—Milo Chatfield to fill vacancy
1866 to 1871	Milo Chatfield
1872	Baldwin Cook
1873-4-5-6	L. C. Read
1877-8	H. H. Swaim
1879-80	W. O. Andrus
1881-2	S. H. Dimmett
1883	W. B. Lawrence
1884	George Bunn
1885	I. N. Ives
1886	E. J. Rowley
1887	Joseph Monroe
1888	William B. Lawrence
1889	E. Mott
1890	H. H. Swaim
1891	E. Mott
1892	P. Guthrie
1893	P. P. Rumpff
1894-5-6	I. N. Ives
1897-8	J. A. Musick
1899	C. L. Hutchinson
1900-1	D. T. Foster
19 2-3	Frank Edwards

City Marshals of Bloomington and Police Statistics.

Year ending April 30.	Marshal.	Captain.	Sergeant.	Desk Sergeant.	Patrolmen.
1851	Orrine Curtis	0	0	0	0
1852	William McCullough resigned—Geo. D. McElhiney to fill vacancy	0	0	0	0
1853	L. E. Rucker	0	0	0	0
1854	Allin Withers, resigned—Leonard R. Flanders appointed to fill vacancy	0	0	0	5
1855	Leonard R. Flanders, removed—Elijah DePew to fill vacancy	0	0	0	0
1856	Jonathan Glimpse	0	0	0	4
1857	A. T. Briscoe	0	0	0	4
1858	A. T. Briscoe	0	0	0	0
1859	A. T. Briscoe	0	0	0	0
1860	A. T. Briscoe	0	0	0	0
1861	A. T. Briscoe	0	0	0	5
1862	A. T. Briscoe resigned—Geo. Bull to fill vacancy	0	0	0	3
1863	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	4
1864	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	4
1865	M. W. Butler	0	0	0	2
1866	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	2
1867	Chas. W. Lander, resigned—Geo. Bull to fill vacancy	0	0	0	3
1868	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	5
1869	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	8
1870	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	10
1871	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	10
1872	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	10
1873	Geo. Bull	0	0	0	10
1874	W. G. Boyce	1	0	0	11
1875	W. G. Boyce	1	0	0	9
1876	W. G. Boyce	1	0	0	9
1877	A. H. Cook	1	0	0	10
1878	Elliot Miller	1	0	0	11
1879	Elliot Miller	1	0	0	12
1880	Elliot Miller	0	0	0	12
1881	James Stone	1	1	0	11
1882	James Stone	1	1	0	12
1883	Thomas Keogh	1	1	0	12
1884	Thomas Keogh	1	1	0	12
1885	J. E. Bentley	1	1	0	12
1886	James Stone	1	1	0	14
1887	J. E. Bentley	1	1	0	15
1888	J. E. Bentley	1	1	0	15
1889	J. E. Bentley	1	1	0	14
1890	James Stone	1	1	0	19
1891	James Stone	1	1	0	19
1892	James Stone	1	1	0	22
1893	James Stone	1	1	0	22
1894	E. J. Potts	1	1	0	22
1895	E. J. Potts	1	1	0	24
1896	E. J. Potts	1	1	0	24
1897	F. J. Maxwell, died—E. J. Potts to fill vacancy	1	1	0	23
1898	R. W. Schroeder	1	1	1	20
1899	R. W. Schroeder	1	1	1	25
1900	C. W. Hitch	1	1	1	26
1901	C. W. Hitch	1	1	1	26
1902	F. L Lang	1	1	1	25
1903	F. L. Lang	1	1	1	27

The annual reports of so many of the early City Marshals fail to give the number of arrests, that I have omitted this item from my table. However, it is a fact that in years gone by Bloomington has been singularly free from any great amount of serious crime. Our citizens have been in the main law abiding citizens.

Chief Engineers of Fire Department.

E WARDEN.

1856..... .....Ephraim Platte

CHIEF ENGINEER.

1857.....George McElhiney
1858.....Milo Chatfield
1859 to 1863 .....Lyman Ferre
1864.....W. F. Ragland
1865-6-7.... .....M. X. Chuse

CHIEF ENGINEER.

1868.....M. X. Chuse—resigned—Ly-
.....man Ferre to fill vacancy.
1869 to 1886 . . ..M. X. Chuse
1887 to 1896.....James O'Neal—re-
signed—Henry Mayers to fill
....vacancy
1897 to 1903.....Henry Mayers

BLOOMINGTON'S PUBLIC PARKS.

There is much of sentiment and feeling in the writer's relations to Miller Park. Long before the question of a public park was first agitated in the city of Bloomington, Miller's pasture was the play ground of the youth of the southwestern portion of the city. Here the school children had their picnics. Here they came in the spring for their wild flowers. Here they came in the autumn for their walnuts, and hickory nuts. Here the boys of the neighborhood had their games of ball. It was the half-way ground to "Horse Shoe Pond," where the boys went daily, and oftener, to swim.

In one corner was the steep hill, down which many a child has rolled, and at its bottom the little creek, fed by the waters bubbling up from the old spring.

Truly, nature created no more beautiful spot in the vicinity of Bloomington than this.

The years have rolled on. The children of those days have become the men and women of this day.

The natural beauties of Miller's pasture have been preserved. To these have been added, the many improvements made by the various boards of Park Commissioners.

Miller's pasture has now become one of the most beautiful public parks in Illinois. It is certainly in keeping with the progressive city of Bloomington.

If there is one spot near and dear to the hearts of Bloomington's citizens it is this lovely spot. It belongs now to no particular portion of one city. It is as dear to one portion as to any other.

The citizens of Bloomington realize the value of a place of this character. It is a breathing spot where those who have not the opportunity or means of travel, can enjoy the same privilege as are offered at watering places. Here the poor can enjoy them-

selves as well as the rich. Public parks tend to lessen evil in my opinion.

Miller Park now contains about eighty acres. The original purchase was forty acres and its original cost was $17,000, $5,000 of which was raised by public subscription. In addition to Miller Park, Bloomington has a number of other small parks. The most important of these is Franklin Square in the northeast part of Bloomington, dedicated to the public by David Davis, William F. Flagg and William H. Allin in 1856 at a time when it was surrounded by corn fields. Today it is surrounded by beautiful homes on all sides and is one of the most valuable pieces of ground in Bloomington. With its beautiful trees and flowers and its well kept lawns, it is indeed a thing of beauty.

In its center is a marble shaft erected to commemorate the fallen heroes of the Civil war.

Franklin Park was the first park that Bloomington owned. When it was first dedicated to the public the idea was ridiculed.

Trotter Park, so-called from the Hon. John W. Trotter, ex-mayor of Bloomington, is a small piece of land upon which the municipal water and lighting plant of this city is located and lies within the limits of the town of Normal.

Nothing of any consequence has been done on this park and perhaps will not be until something is decided about the water system.

Library Park is a tract of ground adjacent to the Withers Public Library. It was deeded to the city by Mrs. Withers on express conditions that it should be a play ground for children and that no signs "Keep Off the Grass" should ever be placed upon it.

The park was immediately seized upon by the street gamins and the neighbors were well nigh compelled to vacate their premises. The library patrons were driven to distraction and the park commissioners were compelled to stop the nuisance even though it technically impair the city's title thereto.

University Park is a small tract of land lying between the street car company's land on Park street and Park street and extends from University avenue to Beecher street. This park demonstrates what can be done by a little landscape gardening.

This particular tract of land was one of the most unsightly places in Bloomington before it was converted into a park. It was

well nigh a hopeless case. Today it is a beautiful spot with well kept flower beds, hedges and trees. The entire expense connected with the work of transformation did not exceed two hundred dollars.

The management of the public parks of Bloomington was by city ordinances adopted September 14, 1888, placed in the control of a board of park commissioners consisting of three persons. The following named persons have constituted the various boards from that time, viz:—For years ending April 30, 1889.

J. H. Burnham, F. W. Koch and W. L. Evans, 1891; J. H. Burnham, F. W. Koch, W. L. Evans, 1892; W. W. Stevenson, J. H. Burnham, J. L. Beath, 1893; W. W. Stevenson, J. H. Burnham, J. L. Beath, 1894; W. W. Stevenson, J. H. Burnham, J. L. Beath, 1895; Wm. VanSchoick, J. L. Beath, J. H. Burnham, 1896; Wm. VanScoick, J. L. Beath, W. H. Patterson, 1897; Wm. VanSchoick, Dudley Smith, W. H. Patterson, 1898; 1899, W. VanSchoick, J. B. Stevenson, W. H. Patterson; 1900, W. VanSchoick. died, Oscar Wakefield to fill unexpired term, J. B. Stevenson, Frank Supple; 1901, O. Wakefield, Frank Supple, J. B. Stevenson; 1902, O. Wakefield, Frank Supple, resigned, William R. Bach to fill vacancy, J. B. Stevenson; 1903, O. Wakefield, J. B. Stevenson, William R. Bach.

There is no salary or perquisite to the office of park commissioner, yet many hours have been each year devoted and generously donated by the men who have occupied these positions.

The original plans for the laying out of Miller Park submitted by the first board of park commissioners was prepared by Mr. E. I. Cantine and were submitted to Col. J. F. Foster, a landscape gardner of Chicago, Illinois, and to his son who was then engineer in charge of the South Parks in Chicago, Illinois, for approval.

These plans were followed and in the following year the custodian's cottage was built and the roads graded.

The reports of the early park commissioners were prophetic in many particulars. Many of their wildest predictions have long since been fulfilled. Already in the year 1892, the commissioners recommended the purchase of more land for the purpose of a lake. The great obstacle to progress in those days was the want of funds. The city could not spare very much money from its general fund and consequently the improvements in the parks were somewhat limited.

On April 16, 1895, the question of voting a park tax of one mill on the dollar assessed valuation was submitted to a vote of the

people. 1,511 votes were cast for it and 822 against it. The measure was lost, however, as there was not a majority of the entire vote cast.

Notwithstanding, the commissioners' recommendations for a dam and lake were concurred on the following year and the lake was built. When the last of the excavation was being done, there came a terrific rain storm, filling the lake. The downpour was so great that the small stream south of Miller Park became a raging torrent and drowned a lady and a child who were attempting to cross it on the bridge on Morris avenue.

In the following year the park commissioners began the agitation of the construction of a larger lake which was kept up until the same was finally completed this year.

On April 19, 1899, a proposition for a two-mill levy for park purposes was submitted to a vote of the people and again the vote cast was decided in favor of the tax, 2,421 voting for it and 886 against it, and again there was not a majority of votes cast for the tax and it was declared lost.

Then commenced the agitation for a special election to vote upon the question. My colleague, Oscar Wakefield, certainly deserves the greatest amount of credit and praise for his untiring efforts in behalf of the parks of Bloomington.

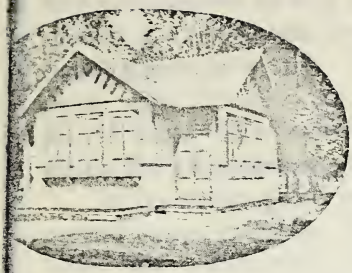
Through his efforts a special election was held on October 17, 1899, and carried.

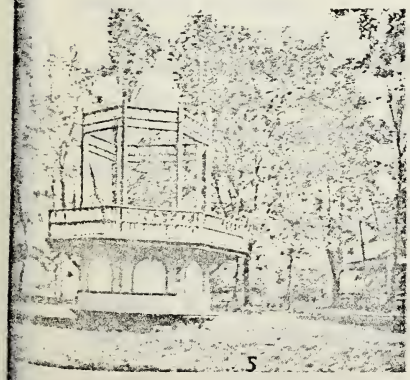
Future generations will thank him for his untiring efforts in this behalf. The levying of this tax has already had a wonderful effect upon the conditions of our parks.

A lake has been constructed in Miller Park by the erection of an earthwork dam, some 1,800 feet long. This dam is 200 feet in width at the bottom and 30 feet in width on top, affording a fine driveway around the top. The inner face of the dam is built on a 3 to 1 grade and the outer face on a 2 to 1 grade.

Through the center of the dam, extending from a stratum of blue clay some fifteen feet below the surface of the ground to the upper face of the dam is a puddle core, made from yellow brick clay, thoroughly puddled. This core is about twenty-four feet wide on top and fourteen feet wide at the bottom.

This core absolutely shuts off any underground percolation. One year ago the water in the creek furnishing the water for the





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SCENES IN MILLER PARK.

lake was dammed up and in the meantime contrary to the general opinion of all, this lake has filled up, making a surface sixteen to eighteen acres in extent. It is thirty feet in depth at the deepest point. The two lakes are connected by cutting out a portion of the old dam. This improvement when finally completed will cost within the neighborhood of $20,000.

In the northwestern corner of the new lake the surface of the ground slopes gradually from a distance of three hundred feet. Upon this surface white sand from Michigan City, Indiana, has been placed to a depth of from six to ten inches, making a splendid bathing beath. Next year a bath house will be constructed and a long felt want in Bloomington will at last be realized.

Perhaps the most beautiful and most substantial improvement that has yet been placed in Miller park is the large stone bridge over the lake at the east side of the park.

This bridge is made from stone taken from the McLean county court house, destroyed by fire on June 19, 1900, and probably more than anything else, will perpetuate the memory of the old court house in the generations to come.

Mr. Paul O. Moratz was the architect and Mr. Henry Behrends was the contracting mason.

If built of new material this work would have cost not less than $6,000, as it stands now it has not cost $2,500.

In one stone of this bridge has been placed a box for future generations to ponder over, when time is old and present commissioners are no more.

The park system of Bloomington is yet in its infancy. The future will witness yet greater growth.

The two-mill tax for parks is perpetual and as long as it is wisely expended upon our parks will be the tax that is most cheerfully paid by the citizens of Bloomington.

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

This subject is so fully and ably treated by Mrs. Caroline F. Kimball in her article on the Withers Public Library in this volume that no further mention is required.

Population of Bloomington, Ill.

1834		180
1836		450
1845		800
1850		1,594
Negro	40	
1855		5,000
1860		7,075
Negro	145	
1870		14,590
of whom 10,692 were native born and 3,898 foreign born. Negro	235	
1880		17,180
of whom 13,689 were native born and 3,491 foreign born. Negro	401	
1890		20,464
of whom 16,378 were native born and 4,086 foreign born. Negro	469	
1900		23,486
of whom 19,675 were native born and 3,811 foreign born. Negro	599	

The figures of census of 1834, 1836, 1845 and 1855 are taken from Burnham's History of Bloomington and Normal. The others are from the U. S. census. The U. S. census of 1840 does not give the population of Bloomington. It gives the population of the county but does not of the towns or precincts.

BLOOMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Bloomington Fire Department deserves and receives as many commendatory statements as any other institution in Bloomington. It is the only institution connected with our municipal government that is entirely divorced from politics. And it is indeed strange that a silent unwritten law maintains a stricter civil service in our Fire Department than pages full of written laws do in other cities.

But it is a fact that while there is no civil service law applicable to our fire department yet each incoming mayor and city council recognize the fire department as one institution that partisan politics must not enter. As a result we have a set of men in our fire department who are very efficient.

Barring the great fire of June 19, 1900, which required the services of the Bloomington fire department and parts of the Peoria and Springfield departments, and which, permit me to say here, could never have been overcome with the equipment that was at that time provided for the Bloomington companies, Bloomington has been particularly fortunate in regard to fires. This has been no doubt due to the alacrity and energy of the local fire "laddies."

I believe that if the many requests of Chief Mayers had been complied with and the equipment recommended by him furnished—

the great fire of June 19, 1900, would never have happened. I do not desire to be thought as criticising anyone in the foregoing statement. The fact is that the citizens of Bloomington had come to believe that it didn't make any difference what kind of equipment the fire department had. That they had a fire department that could handle any fire, however large, without the new equipment that had been recommended. If any person connected with the city government had before the fire of June 19, 1900, suggested the expenditure of sixty thousand dollars to rebuild and modernize our fire fighting service, he would have been publicly denounced as crazy and reckless. Yet that sum will not cover the expenditure for new sites, engine houses and apparatus already contracted for since the fire, and no one has the slightest criticism for such action and it meets with the unanimous approval of our citizens.

Sometimes it takes great events to open our eyes. The fire of June 19, 1900, has certainly done that to a very marked extent in so far as fire equipment is concerned.

The Bloomington fire department was organized on December 7, 1856, and the mayor was authorized to have a fire engine house constructed. This engine house was located at No. 104 North East street. Previous to that time what fire companies there were, were strictly private organizations with no connection with the municipal government. However, on June 21, 1855, the Prairie Bird Hand Engine was authorized to be purchased, and on the 7th day of that same month the first ordinance fixing fire limits in Bloomington was adopted by the city council.

In those days there was no system of water works. In lieu thereof large cisterns were constructed in all parts of the city. The first of these cisterns were constructed of wood and five of them were authorized to be built by the city council on December 3, 1856.

The number was increased from time to time until there were cisterns in various parts of the city. The later ones were of more substantial construction and were of very great capacity. In some instances these cisterns were paid for by public subscription.

On June 17, 1857, the present No. 1 engine house land was purchased. On June 16, 1858, contract for a combined engine house and calaboose was let to S. D. Rounds. This was constructed on the site purchased from Joel DePew but is not the

same building that stands there today. The first fire company organized was the Prairie Bird Company. It was a private company. After the fire engine house last above mentioned was built this company together with another company was allowed a certain amount per month from the city.

Fire Company No. 2 was organized July 23, 1858, and on September, 1858, another hand engine was purchased by the city from Haheman & Company, costing $1,610.80.

On January 26, 1859, both companies were allowed to occupy the new engine house situated on the land purchased from Joel DePew.

On February 9, 1859, Lyman Ferre was employed to build the first hose cart for the city.

On January 30, 1861, Prairie Bird Company was disbanded and Prairie Bird Engine and Hose Company No. 1 was organized.

The No. 2 Engine Company afterwards occupied quarters on Front street at the corner of Madison, where the Schultz block now stands. Afterwards moved north one block on the south side of Washington street and from there to the building now occupied by it, and owned by the city, situated on the west side of Madison street between Washington and Front streets. In 1861 a third fire company was organized and was supplied with an engine. Land was bought for it and engine house was erected. It was located where the Hibernian hall is located on west side of Madison street between Front and Grove street. This third company disbanded on February 6, 1865, and its hose cart was turned over to Fire Company No. 1 on May 19 of same year. Hand engines No. 2 and No. 3 were authorized to be sold, also engine house No. 3 and the proceeds vested in a steam fire engine. This was done and Fairbury and Pontiac, Ill., became purchasers of the engines, and the Bloomington Turn Verein of Engine House No. 3. The proceeds of these sales were applied to the purchase of a new fire engine costing $4,400, which purchase was reported to the city council on April 29, 1867, by Mayor Rood. Upon the acquisition of a steam fire engine, there must necessarily be appointed engineer and driver, and these were appointed and received salary. This steam engine was kept on West Washington street in No. 2 engine house.

In 1868 the present No. 1 engine house was built. This has now become entirely too small and has already been sold by the city to W. A. Gerken.

On June 19, 1868, the first set of rules governing the fire department was adopted.

On May 24, 1871, upon the petition of many of the leading citizens of Bloomington another steam engine was purchased.

After the purchase of the steam fire engines the old hand engine was transferred to a location on Catherine street, just north of Chestnut street, where the city owned a lot and a building was erected for it. This company was maintained at that point until May 4, 1874. It was a volunteer company.

The first hook and ladder truck was bought in March, 1881.—

It was in Mayor Mason's administration that the Bloomington fire department became a fully paid department.

There are now in process of erection three new fire stations, one, the central fire station on the north side of the two hundred block on East Front street which is a credit to any city. When completed this engine house will cost very close to $30,000. The other two engine houses will cost when completed the sum of about $5,000 each. One of these is located on the east side of the nine hundred block on South Main street. The other is located on the southwest corner of Center and Walnut streets. The location of these two latter engine houses in the north and south parts of the city is an index pointing to the location of two similar stations in the east and west parts of the city. I understand that such is in contemplation in the not far distant future. In addition to the equipment of the new smaller fire engine houses a lighter engine has been bought to run to the residence districts and an aerial truck should be purchased for the business section of the city. I give below the names of the present fire department. Some of these men have been connected with the service for nearly half a century.

Fire Department.

Henry Mayers.....Chief

STEAM ENGINE COMPANY NO. 1

T. B. Corman.....Engineer
Wilson Smith.....Stoker
Geo. Bickel.....Driver

HOSE COMPANY NO. 1

Wm. Peters.....Driver
Lawrence Burns.....Hoseman
Morris Luby..... "
James Ellis..... "

HOSE COMPANY NO. 2

Louis Browning..... Driver
Patrick Twomey.....Hoseman
Albert Radbourn..... "
Flurry Colton..... "

HOSE COMPANY NO. 3

Joseph Smith.....Driver
Harry Swearingen.....Hoseman

HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY NO. 1

Chas. Abrams..Ass't. Chief and Driver
Geo. Butler.....Ladderman
Louis Johnson..... "
Jessie Mintun..... "
John Gregory..... "

CHEMICAL ENGINE COMPANY NO. 1

James Morrisey.....Engineer
Patrick Fitzgerald..... Driver
Joseph Sprague.....Nozzleman

Health Officers of Bloomington.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1867-8-9	A. T. Briscoe
1870	Milton Wakefield
1871-2	E. Stahl
1873	W. C. Scovel
1874	Birdsey Holcomb
1875	L. C. Read
1876	Birdsey Holcomb
1877	Josiah Clarke
1878	M. Salzman
1879	Henry Wait
1880-1	John Dawson
1882-3	Matthew Hausen
1884	J. O. Pullen
1885 6-7-8	Hiram Greenwood
1889	Geo. O. Loyd
1890	D. A. Dryer
1891	W. D. Hunter
1892-3	Dr. C. J. Corley, Health Commissioner; W. D. Hunter, Sanitary Policeman
1894	Dr. C. J. Corley, Health Commissioner
1895-6-7	Harley J. White, Sanitary Policeman; no Health Commissioner
1898-9	Dr. D. O. Moore, Health Commissioner; J. F. Anderson, Sanitary Policeman
1900	Dr. D. O. Moore, Health Commissioner; J. F. Anderson, Sanitary Policeman
1901	Dr. D. O. Moore, died; Dr. F. J. Welch to fill vacancy; J. F. Anderson, Sanitary Policeman
1902-3	Dr. A. W. Meyer, Health Commissioner; J. F. Anderson, Sanitary Policeman

SUPERINTENDENTS OF WATER WORKS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

From the time of the construction of the city water works in the years 1874 and 1875 to 1887 the office of superintendent of water works was joined with that of fire chief. After that time to 1890 it was a separate office.

After the construction of the electric light plant in 1890 it was made to include the superintending of the electric light plant also. The following men have occupied the position:

Superintendents of Waterworks.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1887	M. X. Chuse
1888	E. J. Rowley
1889-90	M. H. Eldridge
1891 to 1903	H. W. Schmidt

Collectors for City of Bloomington, Ill.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1885-6	Herman Rothermel
1887	Henry Gerbhardt
1888	Joseph H. Scibird
1889	Joseph Monroe
1890 to 1896	John C. Becker
1897	Louis M. Reeves
1898-9	Harley J. White
1900-1-2	Fred Finkbohner, died E. H. Rood to fill vacancy

Electrical Inspectors.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1899-1900-1	James McDermott
1902-3	William C. Corey

City Engineers and Surveyors.

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NAME.
1857	J. H. Livingston—resigned—J. P. Hely to fill vacancy
1858-9	A. G. Stevens
1860-1	John P. Hely
1865	Geo. P. Ela
1869	Ira Merchant—resigned—J. L. Spaulding to fill vacancy—resigned—Ira Merchant re-appointed.
1870	William Zimmerman
1871-2-3-4	Ira Merchant
1875	Geo. P. Ela
1876 to 1881	Ira Merchant
1882	A. H. Bell
1883-4	Ira Merchant
1885 to 1890	A. H. Bell
1891 to 1899	William P. Butler
1900-1-2-3	Elmer Folsom

BLOOMINGTON'S PAVEMENTS, SEWERS AND SIDEWALKS.

Up to 1869 there was not an inch of sewer, a foot of water mains, nor a square yard of pavement in Bloomington. In the spring of 1869 there was a mud embargo here, when for three weeks there was no hauling done at all. This waked the people up to the necessity of doing something and some Macadam pavement was put down. This was made of block stone at the bottom, covered with a foot of crushed stone, and received its name from Mr. McAdam, the inventor.

SOME EARLY PAVEMENTS.

Grove street, from the Illinois Central to Main street, was the first street to be paved. Then came Chestnut, from the Chicago & Alton depot to Center street. In 1870, when Mr. T. J. Bunn was mayor, the first block of Nicholson pavement (pine blocks) was laid. This was put down on the north side of the square, from Center to Main, but was gradually extended block by block. Round cedar blocks were used in connection with the Nicholson pavement till some five or six blocks were completed. Some rubble (stone blocks) were also used. It was a constant search for some sort of material that would make good pavements.

In 1877 was laid the first block of brick pavement ever put down in the United States. This was put down on the west side of the square, from Washington to Jefferson streets, and was to replace rotted Nicholson pavement. The late Mr. N. B. Heafer must be given credit for this sort of pavement. He furnished the brick, laid the pavement and took entire charge of its building. He used the same system now used, except that he had no roller as the city now has. The south side of the square was paved with brick in the summer of 1880 and this block is now in pretty good condition,

and only slight repairs have ever been made on it. From that time to this brick pavement has been the standard and the system has been constantly extended in this city, as well as in other cities and states, all having started from Bloomington.

At the present time there are twenty-two miles of brick pavement in Bloomington. Three-quarters of a mile of asphalt pavement, and one mile of McAdam pavement, and about a half-mile of gravel and novaculite hard roads. During the present year about three-quarters of a mile of Poston block pavement will be laid and a mile of asphalt.

SEWERS.

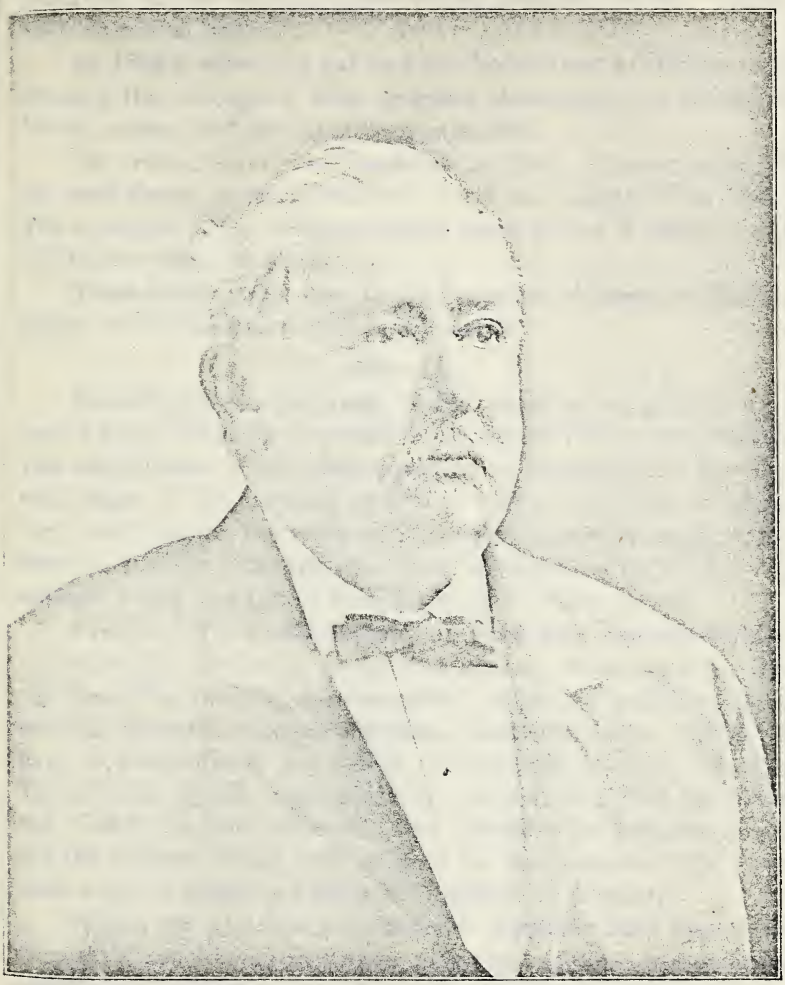
Bloomington is well located in so far as drainage is concerned. Very little damage from freshets ever occurred to property within its corporate limits.

This was particularly true of the early town, situated as it was on the high ground and sloping in three directions to the various branches of the Sugar Creek, which completely encircled the town. It was along these streams that the trunk lines of the Bloomington sewers were laid. Now every part of Bloomington is well sewered.

FIRST SEWERS IN CITY.

The first sewer ever laid in Bloomington was on the north slough to take the place of two wooden bridges on West Market street, one being between Oak and Mason and the other on Mason, between Monroe (then North) and Market streets. From the north line of Market to the west line of Mason used to be a "washout" on Market street from the bridge to Mason street. Sometimes after a big rain the "washout" would be often eight feet deep and, of course, was very dangerous. This first sewer did away with this "washout." This first sewer was then extended west to its junction with the south slough. Then it was extended east during the "70s" up to a point on Douglas street, east of East street. It stopped there for a year or two, but was afterwards extended.

The start of sewering the south slough was made in 1876, across Washington street, just east of Allin. There were a number of little old wooden bridges, and driftwood used to come up and wash these bridges away. Afterwards the south slough sewer was extended west under the Chicago & Alton tracks to Cranmer



IRA MERCHANT.

street. Then it was further extended east to the south line of Olive street in the early '70s. In 1884 it was extended to the south line of Clay street and now will be extended further. Laterals were put in later.

In 1883 a sewer was put in from Main street to Graham and through the Chicago & Alton grounds, discharging its waters at Morris avenue, but has since been extended.

The valley sewer was completed in 1900. The extension of the west slough sewer to Stillwell street was completed in 1901. The extension of the southeast slough sewer is now in progress and will be completed this fall.

There will be more than thirty-five miles of sewers in Bloomington when this latter sewer is completed.

SIDEWALKS.

Bloomington has just cause to feel proud of its splendid system of brick sidewalks surpassed by no city its size in the country. The compactness of the settled portion of Bloomington; the regular shape of the territory embraced within its limits, it being very nearly square, has rendered it possible to provide nearly every street in the city with first-class brick sidewalks on both sides. A uniform width has always been maintained where possible.

Prior to 1876, wooden boards laid cross ways were the prevailing sidewalks, but owing to the vast amount of damages for life and limb that the city were compelled to pay, by reason of these wooden sidewalks, wooden sidewalks were abandoned. Today I have no knowledge of any within the corporate limits of the city. The city has always constructed the bed and furnished the slack and cinders for brick sidewalks, free, provided the property owner did the balance of the work or paid for the balance of the sidewalk before a special tax was levied against his property.

Within the past few years concrete sidewalks have been quite frequently constructed and when properly laid have proved quite satisfactory. There are now 125 miles of sidewalk within the corporate limits of the city.

BLOOMINGTON'S MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM.

The digging of the north side coal shaft led to the discovery of the water supply of the city of Bloomington.

Before that time the city relied on wells and cisterns for fire protection and also for water to drink and for household purposes.

Ten or twelve large cisterns situated in the streets in business part of the city were constructed. But in 1874 the present city well was dug and in 1875 the stand pipe was erected.

Eighty thousand dollars of eight per cent bonds were issued to pay for the construction of water works and stand pipe. Water mains were at once laid through the principal part of the city.

For twenty-eight years this well has furnished the citizens of Bloomington an abundant supply of clear, pure water such as is seldom found elsewhere.

The city well has since been deepened the last time during Mayor Smith's administration and in addition a system of tube wells extending to a lower vein of water has been added.

The water from these tube wells is forced or lifted into the large well and from there is forced through the city water mains by the large Worthington pump, having a capacity of 4,000,000 gallons daily, and by a Blake pump of 2,000,000 gallons daily capacity.

The average daily amount of consumption of water in Bloomington is in the neighborhood of 3,000,000 gallons.

Bloomington water works are self-sustaining and that too with rates that are very low indeed. The annual income from water rents amounts to about $18,000. The operating expenses are very nearly the same.

Other cities charge twice the amount for water that Bloomington does, and thereby gain quite an income therefrom above operating expenses. Bloomington must soon raise its water rents to the same rates charged by other cities and use the excess for rebuilding plant and to assist maintaining fire protection.

The city's water works are entirely free from debt.

The plant includes besides pumping station, machinery, wells and stand pipe 200,000 feet of water mains, extending to all parts of the city.

But recently the city extended a large ten-inch supply main through the entire business portion of the city for the purpose of fire protection.

This year the sum of $25,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of improving the water supply.

In the construction of new water mains it has been customary for the city to pay one-third of the cost of the same and property

specially benefited thereby the remaining two-thirds. This method has given general satisfaction.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

For thirteen years the city of Bloomington has owned and operated its own electric light plant.

For four years prior to that time light was furnished it by the Bloomington Electric Light Company. And prior to that time for a great many years the city was lighted by coal gas furnished by the Citizens' Gas Company.

Sufficient time has now elapsed since the installment of the city's plant to determine whether municipal lighting is a success. After a careful investigation of the matter, I am fully convinced that the city has already saved thousands of dollars by operating its own light plant. Our electric light costs 25 per cent less per light than it did when furnished by private individuals, taking into consideration original cost of installation, depreciation and interest on investment.

In support of this statement, I submit the following tables gathered from the official records in the office of the city clerk. I commence with the first year that electric lights were used solely for lighting:

YEAR ENDING APRIL 30.	NO. OF LIGHTS.	TOTAL COST.	COST PER LIGHT.
1887	212	$22,020.71	$103.86
1888	212	22,452.46	105.90
1889	212	17,449.15	82.30
1890	220	13,461.72	61.18
1891	220	10,970.69	49.86
1892	220	11,122.50	50.55
1893	220	13,706.00	62.30
1894	220	15,060.92	68.45
1895	291	14,506.37	49.85
1896	300	17,217.61	57.39
1897	300	15,573.65	51.91
1898	310	17,045.28	54.98
1899	310	16,683.35	53.81
1900	310	18,026.11	58.15
1901	310	17,511.16	56.48
1902	313	20,461.86	65.37

Commencing with the year ending April 30, 1889, it will be noticed that the cost per light was reduced $21.12 making total of $4,477.44 less than would have been paid had the contract with the Bloomington Electric Light Company for the previous year governed in prices during that year.

It will be noticed further that the cost of lighting the city was reduced $5,000 the year before that, due no doubt to the agi-

tation that was then going on in our city for a municipal lighting plant. So that in reality there was a cut of $10,000 from prices prevailing before the city commenced the installation of its plant. But now follow the figures and it will be found that the average cost per arc light in Bloomington for the past twelve years has been $56.25.

These figures do not include the cost of the plant originally nor cost of building, but do include all supplies and repairs.

The cost of the installation of the plant in 1891 and subsequent enlargement was as follows:

Year ending April 30, 1890	$26,883 12
Year ending April 30, 1891	20,981 27
Year ending April 30, 1892	20,232 40
Year ending April 30, 1893	7,114 78
Year ending April 30, 1894	2,678 15
Year ending April 30, 1895	9,133 12
Total	$87,022 84

The percentage of depreciation in thirteen years is not more than 50 per cent. To this 50 per cent depreciation there must be added interest at 5 per cent on the amount paid for installation of plant, making a total of depreciation and interest of $87,000.

The average number of lights per year lighted during these thirteen years was 249 1-3 lights, making an additional cost for depreciation and interest of $26.47 per light for each year, which should be added to the cost in the first above mentioned table.

Then, too, the quality of the service has been greatly improved since the city has made its own light. The writer very well remembers the conditions that prevailed when private individuals furnished the electric light. There was a continuous controversy. Money was spent for hack hire to haul city officers about the city to detect unlighted lamps. Complaints were many. Now the city is well lighted and the light is splendid.

Next year the service will be greatly extended and some fifty to seventy-five additional street lights will be installed.

New style lights will be installed. New machinery will also be installed and the city will be rewired. For these improvements the sum of at least $30,000 will have to be appropriated.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE GREAT FIRE OF JUNE 19, 1900.

On the morning of June 19, 1900, within a brief space of eight hours' time, the most substantial part of the business portion of the fair city of Bloomington was destroyed by fire. Two millions of dollars would not cover the losses occasioned thereby. The burned district extended from Monroe street to Washington street and from East street to Madison street, comprising over five solid blocks of business houses including the McLean county court house.

The fire started in the Model Laundry building on the south side of Monroe street, between Main and East streets about midnight, June 18.

The fire had made considerable headway by the time the Bloomington fire department was called. The department responded quickly and soon had the flames apparently under control, when suddenly it seemed that something in the building exploded and immediately flames shot forth from every window. From that moment it was a losing fight. The building was soon completely wrapped in flame. A northeast wind was blowing. The flames leaped across the alley to the Brand building—a large furniture store and then store by store in that block was rapidly licked up by the flames. Before this entire block burned the flames had leaped across Main street and the burning of that block commenced. When the writer first arrived upon the scene, it was very nearly 3 o'clock. The fire had just reached the Durley building and efforts were then being made to blow up the same with dynamite. These efforts proved fruitless, however, and the flames were unchecked. Leaping across Jefferson street, they soon set fire to the Griesheim building, a large six-story building that had been completed but a short time before. This building caught fire above, near the cupola and burned down in an incredibly short space of time, likewise the new Cole building adjoining it on the south. These new buildings were the pride of Bloomington and many expressions of regret were heard when they were reduced to ashes.

The flames from the Griesheim and Cole buildings set fire to the sparrows nests in the eaves of the court house building and to the east clock face on the court house dome, the only two vulnerable places about this supposed fire-proof building. By the time the

flames in the court house building had barely started, the buildings on the north side of the court house square were totally demolished and the flames had reached the Windsor Hotel on one side and the Odd Fellows' Hall on the other.

It was peculiar, but it was nevertheless the fact that the Windsor Hotel caught fire from the burning of the Mahaffey barn in the rear. This barn was set on fire by the burning fire brands that were carried high in the air by the terrible draft caused by the fire. Fire brands were carried as far as a mile from the scene of the fire. This draft was something fearful and caused the temperature even in the near vicinity of the fire to become uncomfortably cold.

The burning Windsor ignited the Green Drug Store building south of it. It was at this time that help arrived from Peoria and Springfield, Illinois. There was a shout of gratitude when these reinforcements came to our fire boys.

A determined stand was made by the two outside companies and by a portion of the Bloomington department on the third building south from Jefferson street on the west side of the square. Here was indeed the most difficult place to curb the flames on acount of the construction of the buildings and their age. Yet at that point the fire was fought to death by those gallant fire boys. On the other side of the square the fire met a determined obstacle in the Odd Fellows' building, due to a thick fire wall that completely encircled it. This fact, together with the fact that the building just opposite to it on the south side of Washington street was a fire-proof building, caused that branch of the conflagration to halt there.

The burning of the court house was one of the saddest events of the entire fire. One thing alone, the destruction of the law library, valued at $40,000, has been a constant cause of regret ever since the fire, especially to the legal profession.

However, the various county officials are to be congratulated for the preservation of the county records. Many of these men endangered their lives to rescue from destruction these records that had been placed in their keeping. I know of one instance where one of the county officials was literally dragged out of the burning building where he had been subjecting himself to great peril in protecting and saving the records placed in his charge. This person will bear the effects of that fire to his dying day. That future

generations may know those who suffered from the fire I give the list of fire sufferers.

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
MODEL LAUNDRY BUILDING	$10,000	$4,000	$6,000
Owned by Evans Bros.			
Model Laundry Company	13,000	4,900	8,100
B. S. GREEN COMPANY BUILDING	20,000	10,000	10,000
B. S. Green Company	60,000	45,000	15,000
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.			
R. F. EVANS BUILDING	500	500	
GEO. BRAND BUILDING	22,500	10,500	12,000
Geo. Brand & Co	32,500	12,000	20,500
L. H. WELDON BUILDING	9,000	7,800	1,200
GRAND LEADER BUILDING	12,000	5,500	6,500
R. F. & W. L. Evans.			
Grand Leader	28,000	17,800	10,200
THE THOMPSON COMPANY BUILDING	10,000	3,000	7,000
Arthur Heafer.			
The Thompson Company	9,000	6,000	3,000
COOPER, JACKMAN & CO. BUILDING	10,000	2,500	7,500
McGregor Estate.			
Squire Hendryx	1,000		1,000
James Herron	200		200
James Merwin	200		200
E. M. Prince	400		400
Cooper, Jackman & Co	16,000	8,000	8,000
Geo. D. Harding	750	495	255
MILLER HARDWARE BUILDING	10,000	4,000	6,000
Jeff Burke.			
Z. T. Miller & Sons	15,000	9,800	5,200
DURLEY BUILDING	42,000	35,000	7,000
Mrs. H. S. Swayne.			
Pixley & Co	35,000	29,500	5,500
GRIESHEIM BUILDING	85,000	61,000	24,000
Wolf Griesheim.			
Griesheim & Son	35,000	29,000	6,000
E. Brock	800		800
Dr. C. H. Beadles	400	200	200
Bloomington Electric Light Company	6,000		6,000
Dr. Bishop	500		500
Dr. J. H. Cregler	2,000	500	1,500
Chas. J. Cole	1,000		1,000
Crescent Grain Company	300		300
Dr. E. B. Coen	1,200	400	800
Len H. Collins	500		500
Chas. L. Capen	2,000	500	1,500

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
W. B. Carlock	$ 3,000	$ 500	$2,500
Christian Science	200		200
Mrs. Prince	75		75
Florence Schneider	75		75
A. E. DeMange	3,000	500	2,500
J. E. Hoffman	300		300
A. M. Duff	400		400
R. J. Otto	75		75
E. E. Donnelly	1,600	700	900
Ewing, Wight & Ewing	3,000	500	2,500
Dr. W. E. Guthrie	2,500	800	1,700
Dr. Fulwiler	1,200	300	900
Dr. Harry Stevenson	900		900
Henry Throbro	200		200
T. F. & T. W. Tipton	12,000		12,000
J. J. Thompson	300		300
Lincoln League	75		75
Viney & Storey	225		225
Welty & Sterling	1,800	1,100	700
Homer Hall	800		800
Wave Miller	500		500
J. Warlow	50		50
W. R. White	500		500
A. Zick	1,700	150	1,550
Public School Publishing Co., stock, furniture, books with all accounts, subscription list with $17,000 in unpaid subscriptions. They expect to be able to collect from their account so their loss will be reduced to $10,000 or $12,000.	25,000	500	24,500
Wm. Funk, Barber	650		650
W. H. Gardner & Son	150		150
John A. Fulwiler	2,500	1,000	1,500
Fry & Wycoff	200		200
Dr. J. H. Fenelon	450		450
Miss E. E. Fisher	300		300
Lillard & Williams	5,000	1,000	4,000
Dr. E. Mammen	1,500	500	1,000
Miner & O'Connell	1,800		1,800
Mutual Life Insurance Co	150		150
Dr. Chas. Morseman	2,000		2,000
Dr. A. W. Myers	1,000		1,000
McLean County Telephone Co	1,000		1,000
Dr. C. M. Noble	100		100

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
New York Life	$ 250		$ 250
Dr. Nusbaum	2,000		2,000
Dr. Rogers	1,500		1,500
H. H. Newell	650	$ 300	350
A. L. Pillsbury	600	400	200
Frank Parritt	19,000	9,000	10,000
Potter & Young	1,000		1,000
Rowell, Neville & Lindley	2,500	1,000	1,500
Giles Rounds	50		50
Dr. L. & Geo. R. Smith	1,000		1,000
Dr. J. Whitefield Smith	1,000	350	650
Dr. Hindman	700		700
H. M. Marian	450		450
Dr. Kunkler	500		500
Young & Potter	1,000		1,000
Commonwealth	800		800
Rhea Miller	500		500
Cole Building	32,000	23,000	9,000
Cole Bros., Dry Goods	50,000	36,000	14,000
B. M. Kuhn	5,000		5,000
Chas. M. Pierce	2,000	1,000	1,000
Dr. J. Little	800		800
Dr. Hull	1,600	300	1,300
Dr. A. Fox	1,500		1,500
Dr. Lockett	1,500	500	1,000
Bloomington Toilet Supply Co.	550		550
Thompson & Hays	600	272	328
James Loar	1,000		1,000
Dr. B. M. Vandervoort	600		600
Dr. F. C. Vandervort	600	200	400
Dr. Bonnett	350		350
F. O. Lash	204.75	204.75	
Dr. Chapin	1,200	300	900
Merchant's Nat. Pro. Assn.	18,000		18,000
Meyer & Wochner Building	14,000	8,000	6,000
Ed Fahey	6,000	3,000	3,000
Louis FitzHenry	1,000		1,000
Julius Freeman	200		200
John A. Jones	500		500
Geo. P. Davis Building	9,000	6,700	2,300
DeMolay Band	250		250
Fred T. Ashton	500		500
J. C. Phillips	9,000	6,500	2,500
Fred Knorr	400		400
John Stapleton	2,000		2,000

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
MRS. MERRICK BUILDING	$12,000	$6,000	$6,000
Corn Belt Bank	1,500	800	700
J. W. Denton	3,200	500	2,700
Trowbridge, Fleming & Bohrer	3,000	1,000	2,000
B. McCann	300		300
G. H. READ BUILDING	7,000	19,000	12,000
G. H. Read Stock	24,000		
ODD FELLOWS BUILDING	15,000	7,000	8,000
W. E. Klopp & Co.	10,000	5,000	5,000
Remembrance Lodge I. O. O. F. 77	3,000	1,000	2,000
I. O. O. F. Lodge 265	1,000		1,000
Jesse Fell Lodge, K. of P.	1,000		1,000
Modern Woodmen No. 110	175		175
Post L, T. P. A.	20		20
B. of R. T.	100		100
NATIONAL STATE BANK BUILDING	21,000	14,000	7,000
Livingston Estate.			
National State Bank	2,000	1,000	1,000
Sample & Morrisey, Fifer & Barry	6,000	1,500	4,500
R. Lederer	3,200	1,000	2,200
EAGLE BLOCK	30,000	6,000	24,000
Mrs. Merrick.			
F. S. Phoenix	400		400
James Melluish	1,800		1,800
A. BROKAW, BARN	1,500		1,500
Stewart & Lindley	150		150
JAMES STEVENSON BUILDING	50		50
CHAS. SPRINGBAUM BUILDING	421	421	
J. N. Long	500		500
I. H. JOHNSON BUILDING	750	750	
Geo. DuNah	375	125	250
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING	800		800
I. LIVINGSTON BUILDING	250	250	
GEO. HANNA BUILDING	500	500	
Spafford & Cable	50		50
H. C. Wagner	150	62	88
LYMAN GRAHAM BUILDING	14,000	4,600	9,400
McLean County Coal Co.	1,500		1,500
S. Getty	400		400
M. SANS BUILDING	10,000	3,000	7,000
M. Sans	7,000	4,000	3,000
DR. SCHROEDER BUILDING and personal property	20,000	5,000	15,000
O. HELBIG BUILDINGS	20,000		20,000
O. Helbig Personal Property	3,000		3,000
People's Restaurant	2,000	500	1,500

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
Hayes Estate Buildings	$ 2,000	$ 600	$1,400
H. M. Senseney	500		500
John Borst	2,000	1,500	500
Geo. Ridge	500	300	200
Henry Goldman	2,000	800	1,200
A. Guthrie	1,500	1,000	500
John R. Hill	1,000	350	650
E. M. Hamilton	500	200	300
J. W. Evans Estate Building	20,000	5,000	15,000
R. C. Rogers	6,500	4,500	2,000
Corn Belt Drug Co.	8,000	3,000	5,000
C. W. Klemm Building	25,000	15,000	10,000
C. W. Klemm stock	135,000	100,000	35,000
Thompson Building	9,000	5,000	4,000
Joseph Barnes	1,500	500	1,000
J. C. Coblentz	12,000	5,500	6,500
A. M. Kitchell	5,000	4,000	1,000
Marble Building	9,000	5,410	3,590
New York Store	39,000	25,000	14,000
Dr. Rembe	2,500	500	2,000
Dr. Marsh	2,000		2,000
Mrs. Braley Building	10,000	2,000	8,000
Schneider Shoe Co.	13,000	7,000	6,000
Stephen Smith Building and stock	50,000	35,000	15,000
Dr. Campbell	1,000		1,000
W. P. Bolles	7,000	5,500	1,500
Phoenix Hotel Building and furniture, O. Helbig	20,000		20,000
Otto Lipp Building	5,000	3,500	1,500
Otto Lipp	2,000	1,500	500
Belle Plumb Building and stock	8,500	4,345	4,154
Hudson Burr Building	4,500	3,000	1,500
Cunningham & Co.	600	400	200
Keystone Club	500		500
Boston Steam Dye Works	1,500	500	1,000
Sam Thompson Building	4,500		2,500
Free Polyclynic	2,000		2,000
Chris Freevort Building	10,000	7,000	3,000
Chris Freevort	1,000		1,000
Peterson & Waddington	3,000	1,000	2,000
Walter Armbruster	500		500
Fenwick Paper Co.	2,400	2,000	400
Ben Mason	800		800
Egan & Steward	100		100

	Damage	Insurance	Loss
WINDSOR HOTEL BUILDING	$50,000	$8,000	$42,000
Funk, Hanna & Weldon.			
Kohler Brothers	7,000	3,725	3,275
A. W. Kohler	650		650
Luke Kohler	1,300	300	1,000
George Wehran	500	500	
Columbian Knights	400		400
Bus Line	100		100
Dr. Orner	1,000		1,000
Thomas Reed	500		500
Wilcox Bros	50,000	50,000	
J. T. Henderson	450		450
W. C. MAHAFFEY BARN	5,000	3,200	1,800
W. C. Mahaffey	400	350	50
BRUNER BUILDING	1,500	1,500	
Ozier & Co	2,500	1,000	1,500
Home Telephone Co	11,000	600	10,400
J. W. RIGGS BUILDING	10,000	5,000	5,000
Tony Bethea	3,000	1,000	2,000
MRS. BRALEY BUILDING	12,000	2,000	10,000
Green Drug Co	7,800	5,000	2,800
H. H. Green, Jewelry	10,000	4,000	6,000
A. M. Marton	4,500	1,000	3,500
E. O'Connor	100		100
Wm. Kleinau	6,500	3,000	3,500
Robinson & Sutherland	1,794	1,200	594
WITHERS ESTATE BUILDING	12,000	5,000	7,000
Boston Store	8,000	7,053	947
C. E. Jones	700	500	200
MRS. STIPP BUILDING	2,000	1,700	300
Seibert, Good & Co	9,000	7,300	1,700
G. A. ENSENBERGER BUILDING	325	325	
G. A. Ensenberger Stock	325	325	
CENTRAL UNION TELEPHONE CO	12,000		12,000
COURT HOUSE	250,000		250,000
LAW LIBRARY	40,000		40,000
ALBERT HOFFMANN	300		300

There are a few losses outside of the above list which we are unable to get.

Those were the times that tried men's souls. Ruin stared many of our merchants in the face, but thanks to a spirit of resolution and determination to succeed, the sufferers, undaunted by los

and disaster, commenced on that very day to arrange for temporary quarters and to seek the architects and builders.

No one can describe scenes of desolation attending this fire—no one can picture the haggard looks of the citizens of Bloomington as they watched the destruction of their home city. No one believed that the fire would stop until it had reached the open country.

The scenes attending the removal of property from the district that was in the path of the fire can never be forgotten.

Two years have passed since that eventful day. All is changed. What threatened to be our total destruction has indeed been the making of a new city. That fire did one thing more important than all things else. It welded the business men of Bloomington together into what we hope may be an indissoluble organization that has for its aim Bloomington's welfare and advancement. Already its effects are noticeable in the co-operative energy displayed on several occasions where something was to be obtained for the benefit of the city.

The burned district with the exception of some three or four buildings has been rebuilt better and more substantially than ever, and not only the burned district has been rebuilt but numerous other districts have been built up. In fact the entire city has ever since been enjoying a building boom and an era of prosperity never before equalled in its history.

We are all proud of Bloomington and justly so, too. Our conditions are ideal and growing better each day.

The old court house has been replaced by a much more convenient and better court house than we had. In fact every new building far surpasses in elegance and durability the one destroyed.

The old Windsor that did so much to injure our reputation with the traveling public has been replaced by the Illinois which, is one of the finest hotels in Illinois—strictly fire proof and up to date in every particular.

The new Livingston building, now in process of erection, is the finest office building in Bloomington and the first steel constructed building in central Illinois.

The Corn Belt Bank, a strictly fire-proof office building, supplants "Adam's Ark" famous in Bloomington's history.

The new Griesheim building and Unity building, both handsome and commodious office buildings, the Masonic Temple and Odd Fellows' building, are but a few of the many substantial buildings that have been built since the fire.

Two other institutions that have sprung into existence because of the fire are the two heating companies, furnishing steam and hot water heat throughout the business portion of the city. These plants are credits to Bloomington. They minimize the smoke in the business portions of the city. In connection with these may be mentioned the removal of the unsightly poles and wires from the streets in the business portion of the city. All electrical companies suffered very heavily from this fire. Yet within a short time they were temporarily repaired. The movement was ripe to bury the wires and it was done. When completed and all poles and signs are removed from the business streets, Bloomington can certainly claim much credit therefrom

The fire brought to Bloomington mechanics and laborers of all kinds. Many of these have become permanent citizens of the place, and I am not over-stating it when I say that the population of Bloomington increased by reason of the fire at least 2,500 inhabitants.

The affairs of this city have been at flood-tide since the fire and may they continue so indefinitely.

New additions to the city have been laid out. New territory has been taken in by the vote of the people. New improvements of all kinds have been commenced.

Large public works have been carried to completion. The fire fighting service has been equipped with the finest of engine houses and the latest equipment. Miles of pavement have been laid and many miles more are now contracted for. New streets have been opened. Large sanitary sewers have been built.

The scarcest article in Bloomington today is an empty house and an idle man in search of work is a curiosity. Wages have never been better and the demand as steady as now.

Bloomington has always boasted of the high character of her workmen. I wish to emphasize that fact at this point in this article.

Our workingmen are far above the average, most of them own their own homes. No riots have ever occurred to mar the fair name of our city. Our citizens are law-abiding citizens.

Few strikes have we had and we trust few will we have.

In conclusion let me urge upon every citizen the necessity of being public spirited. Let us strive to upbuild and beautify our home city, whenever and wherever we can. Let us seek to attract others to it.

We love our home city and we love to do for it. Bloomingtonians are scattered far and wide, but their love for blessed Bloomington never fades.

Though we may roam in this journey of life far from this little city of our birth, time and future events can never efface from memory's pages the friends and loved ones and sacred companionships that existed here.

Probate Courts of McLean County, Illinois.

BY EZRA M. PRINCE.

The constitution of 1818 provided that "The judicial power of this state shall be vested in one supreme court and such inferior courts as the general assembly shall from time to time ordain and establish."

By the statute of June 1, 1829, (Rev. Sts. 1833) a court of record known as the probate court was established in each county, the judge of which, styled the "Judge of Probate," was appointed by the joint ballot of the general assembly, to hold office during good behavior. Under this act, February 10, 1831, Samuel Durley was appointed judge of probate of McLean county, which office he held until February 17, 1837, when Welcome P. Brown was appointed his successor and held his office until August 17, 1839.

At the time this county was organized its population was about 2,000. The population of Tazewell county, which then included nearly all of McLean, was 4,417 in 1830, and by the census of 1835 the population of McLean county was only 5,308. The amount of business performed by Judges Durley and Brown was not large, its records covering only 256 pages in a small record book. It was probably on this account and to give the person holding the office more to do that the act of March 4, 1837, (Rev. Sts. 1837, p. 176) was passed.

This act repealed the act creating a court of record known as the probate court and in its place provided for the election on the first Monday in August, 1839, and each fourth year thereafter, of an additional justice of the peace for each county, to be "styled by way of eminence and distinction, the probate justice of the peace." It gave to these probate justices the ordinary justice of the peace jurisdiction and also jurisdiction in all probate matters. It also provided that "in all cases of the exercise of such judicial power said probate justices shall report their proceedings therein to the next term of the circuit court of their respective counties on the first day

NOTE—The list of county officers, published in the first volume of our transactions, furnished by the county, omitted the names of the probate judges and probate justices of the peace. To correct that error this article was prepared.

thereof for approval or rejection of such circuit court and if such proceedings shall be approved by the circuit court the same shall be considered a matter of record in said court."

Under this act Wells Colton was elected probate justice of the peace and held office from August 17, 1839, to August 18, 1843, when he was succeeded by Zera Patterson, who held office until December 1, 1849. The probate business during the incumbency of Justices Colton and Patterson was very small, its record being contained in 350 pages of a small page record book. The increase of the population of the state and consequent increase of probate business and the inconvenience of being obliged to report probate proceedings to the circuit court in order to make them matters of record probably accounts for the change in the constitution of 1848 in regard to probate courts.

The constitution of 1848 provided: "There shall be in each county a court, to be called a county court. One county judge shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county who shall hold his office for four years and until his successor is elected and qualified."

Pursuant to this provision the general assembly, April 13, 1849, established a court of record, styled the "county court," with a county judge for the transaction of probate business and vested with full probate jurisdiction. The act also provided for two county justices of the peace, who, with the county judge, should transact county business only.

Under this act the following persons held the office of county judge: John E. McClun, from December, 1849, to December, 1852; John M. Scott, from December, 1852 to December 1853; Bailey H. Coffey, from December, 1853, to December, 1856; Amasa J. Merriman from December 1856, to December, 1873.

May 17, 1858, county government by the county judge and two county justices of the peace was succeeded by the board of supervisors, under the township organization, but this did not affect the probate jurisdiction of the county court, which remains unchanged.

The constitution of 1870.—This provided: "There shall be elected in and for each county one county judge and one clerk of the county court whose term of office shall be four years. County courts shall be courts of record and shall have original jurisdiction in all matters of probate, settlement of estate of deceased persons,

appointment of guardians and conservators and settlement of their accounts, in all matters relating to apprentices and in proceedings for the collection of taxes and assessments, and such other jurisdiction as may be provided for by the general law."

Under this provision an act was passed in force July 2, 1872, which gave county courts concurrent jurisdiction with circuit courts in all that class of cases wherein justices of the peace now have or may hereafter have jurisdiction, where the amount claimed or the value of the property in controversy shall not exceed $500 (subsequently increased to $1,000) concurrent jurisdiction in all cases of appeals from justices of the peace and police magistrates.

Judge Merriman, who was then county judge had no legal training and feeling himself unfitted to deal with all the legal questions that would come up under this enlarged jurisdiction of the county court, retired from the bench and Reuben M. Benjamin was elected his successor and held the office of county judge from December, 1874, to December, 1886, when he voluntarily retired to devote himself to legal authorship. He was succeeded by Colostin D. Myers who held office until June, 1897, when having been elected circuit judge, he resigned and was succeeded by Roland A. Russell, who was re-elected in 1898 and in 1902.

The persons exercising probate jurisdiction in McLean county have been: Probate Judge Samuel Durley, February 10, 1831, to February 17, 1837; Probate Judge Welcome P. Brown, February 17, 1837, to August 17, 1839; Probate Justice of the Peace Wells Colton, August 17, 1839, to August 18, 1843; Probate Justice of the Peace Zera Patterson, Aug. 18, 1843, to Dec. 1849; County Judge J. E. McClun, December, 1849, to December 1852; County Judge John M. Scott, December, 1852, to December, 1853; County Judge Bailey H. Coffey, December, 1853, to December, 1856; County Judge Amasa J. Merriman December, 1856, to December, 1874; County Judge Reuben M. Benjamin, December, 1874, to December, 1886; County Judge Colostin D. Myers, December, 1886, to June 16, 1897; County Judge Roland A. Russell, June 16, 1897, present incumbent.

There is no notice in our local annals of Judges Durley and Browne. Justice Patterson and Judges Coffey and Merriman were all of them in their day leading men of the county. The Historical Society has already taken steps to secure an adequate historical sketch of each of them. A sketch of Justice Colton appears in this volume.

BIOGRAPHIES.

Lemuel and Nancy Biggs.

This pioneer of Money Creek was the stepson of Andrew Biggs, whose family name he adopted on the marriage of his mother, Sarah Evans, to Andrew Biggs, and which he ever after retained. Andrew Biggs was a native of the North of Ireland, born October 22, 1772, and died at Funk's Grove March 15, 1840. Sarah Evans was born August 12, 1782, and died September 10, 1851. He was a weaver and draper by trade and wove the fine linen for which his native country is still celebrated. He afterwards spent several years as a sailor. About 1800 he came to Philadelphia, where he married Sarah Evans; gave up his seafaring life and settled down to that of a farmer. His stepson, Lemuel Evans, was born on Duck Island, in the Delaware River, opposite Philadelphia, March 4, 1805. On the marriage of his mother to Andrew Biggs, he dropped the name of Evans and assumed that of Biggs. About 1816 the family moved to Ohio and in 1826, at the age of twenty-one, he, in company with his cousin, Samuel Evans, came to Blooming Grove. They had only a pony between them, which they took turns in riding. They stopped with William Evans, who owned the claim on which Bloomington was afterwards laid out, and who was a brother of Samuel Evans, and a cousin of Lemuel Biggs.

The next day after they arrived here they visited a large camp of Indians, at Major's Grove. The Galena lead mines were attracting a great deal of attention at that time and in the fall of 1826 Evans and Biggs went there, where they spent the winter of 1826-7 Mr. Biggs had a very severe attack of black measles and came near dying but recovered. Wages were very low at the mines and the miners were a very rough class of people and Evans and Biggs returned to Blooming Grove the next spring satisfied to pursue farming. Mr. Biggs then commenced to work for eight dollars a month for Isaac Funk, who had just got started in his great career of stock raiser and dealer. He had become involved before he left Ohio, signing notes for his father, Adam Funk, who was a large cattle dealer, and when about 1828 or 9, Mr. Funk got together a bunch of cattle he did not consider it prudent to go to Chicago with them but entrusted them to Mr. Biggs, who drove them to Chicago, sold what he could there, and drove the rest to Racine, Wisconsin, where he sold them and brought the proceeds in cash to Mr. Funk, who was the first man to drive cattle from here to Chicago.

Notwithstanding low wages young Biggs in three years saved up $200 and December 21, 1829, he entered the N. W. ¼ Sec. 30 T. 22, 1 E. Funks Grove, built a cabin and went to Ohio and brought his mother and step-father home to this place where they lived the balance of their life. Andrew Biggs was a well educated man for his time. He taught school in the Funk's Grove district. One winter the snow was so deep he and his family lived in the school house during the winter he was teaching there.

May 24, 1830, Lemuel Biggs married Nancy Mullins, the daughter of John Mullins who was a native of Ireland and who spoke English with a strong Irish brogue. Nancy Mullins was a sister of Delilah Mullins who was McLean county's first teacher and who afterwards married William Evans. In 1832 Lemuel Biggs moved to Money Creek, where he bought 320 acres of land in sections 9 and 10, which he soon afterwards traded for 200 acres in section 13, now owned by his daughter Martha, and her husband, James Smith. He engaged largely in stock raising, adding to his landed possessions until he owned 1,160 acres in sections 13, 24 and 25, in Money Creek township. He drove cattle mostly to Chicago. Once he drove a bunch to Alton and sold them to the penitentiary. He also drove hogs to Peoria and also to the lead mines at Galena, where he slaughtered his hogs and peddled them out to the miners. One winter a drover on his way there got snow-bound at Mr. Bigg's in a big storm and had to slaughter his hogs there and load the carcasses in their wagons and haul them to Galena. In

driving hogs in the early days they had to take along corn to feed the hogs as there were no settlements on a good part of the way. The drovers would take several loads of corn along and feed out one load and then send the team back and then feed out another and send it back and so on. The Galena hog trade was a hard one on account of the long drive in winter, trails rather than roads, the proverbial pig-headedness of the hogs and the difficulty of crossing the swollen streams. But it was one of the few markets the pioneers had and they had to make the most of it.

They often tramped out wheat by horses, winnowed it by hand, hauled it to Chicago and sold it for fifty cents a bushel. One year while the canal was being built they went by way of Ottawa with a load of wheat and another of potatoes which they sold at Ottawa, the wheat for fifty cents a bushel and the potatoes the same they were selling for in Chicago.

At first they went to Wilmington in Will county, and Crow Creek in Marshall county, to mill, but about 1834 George W. Wallace built a saw mill and grist mill on the Mackinaw on the N. W. ¼, Sec. 11. It run until the spring of 1857. William Haner had a small tannery at his place.

Militia musters were social occasions attended by everyone in that part of the county, as many as a thousand people attended the two or three musters, Lemuel Biggs' son, Andrew, attended. They were held on the prairie between Mackinaw and Money Creek.

About 1845 prices were very low, corn in the shock ten cents a bushel, hogs $1.25 to $1.50 per hundred, cows $10 each. Money was very scarce. Teachers were usually paid $1.50 per scholar a quarter. Books were very scarce. Mr. Biggs was a prosperous farmer, but about all his children had for school was Webster's spelling book, a testament and slate and pencil.

Lemuel Biggs lived in a log cabin until about 1850. Notwithstanding his large family he always had room for any one who might visit them or the stranger who might call for a night's lodging. No charges were ever made. He was hospitable, social, jolly and full of fun. Every family kept a few sheep and raised flax and spun and wove the cloth and made the clothing for the family. Life was simple, plenty of work to do, plenty of plain wholesome food cooked in a great, big open fireplace. Wild honey by the washtub full, deer and wild turkeys for the shooting. Mr. Smith, one of Mr. Biggs' friends, remembers seeing in the early fifties a doe and fawn come up near the house, feeding with the sheep. But the railroads changed all this. It marked the end of the pioneer days.

Lemuel Biggs died at Money Creek May 7, 1860, and his widow, Nancy, died there September 11, 1893. Their children, Andrew, Jonah, William G., Sarah, Nancy J., Elizabeth, Eliza, Martha, Lemuel and George F., all lived to be married.

George William Bishop.

George William Bishop, son of Thomas J. and Sarah S. (Wiley) Bishop, was born near Selma, McLean county, Ill., October 11, 1855. He is a grandson of William Wiley and a great grandson of John Patton, who located here in 1828, near where Selma was afterwards located. He is of Irish, English and Welsh descent. He attended the district school at Selma, the public school of Normal two years, and the Normal University one year. Is a farmer and resides on the farm where he was born.

On the 17th of October, 1888, he was married to Miss Anna E. Moser, of Columbus, Ohio. They have three children, Ruth E., Rachel K., and Georgianna Marie.

He is the senior member in point of service of the board of directors of District No. 4 school, and has served as commissioner of highways of Lexington township. He is a member of the Methodist church, is a trustee, steward and class leader; a member of McLean Lodge No. 206 of Odd Fellows and has represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of Illinois and is serving his fifth year as lodge deputy. Also a member of Ideal Lodge No. 338, Knights of Pythias, and Ingomar Camp No. 601, Modern Woodmen. Politically, he is a democrat.

Mrs. Judith A. Bradner.

Mrs. Judith A. Bradner, the daughter of William T. and Margaret Major, was born near Paris, Bourbon county, Kentucky, May 9, 1814. Came to Bloomington with her parents, arriving here April 16, 1835. In 1838 she was married to William H. Allin, one of the prominent business men of

the county, and son of James Allin, Bloomington's pioneer. After his death, in 1876, she married George Bradner. She is one of the best authorities living on the early history of the county, her knowledge being extensive and her memory remarkably accurate. Notwithstanding her eighty-eight years she is as active as most people of sixty. Cheerful and full of humorous reminiscenses, she is a most delightful conversationalist.

Flavius Josephus Briggs.

Flavius Josephus Briggs was born in Barnard, Windsor county, Vermont, June 16, 1811. He was the son of Asa Barnard and Jane (Winslow) Briggs, grandson Ephriam and Rhoda (Whitcomb) Briggs. Emigrated to East Pierpont, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., with his father's family, February, 1820. Was never of robust health, was studious and fond of his books, studied for the Universalist ministry, attended school at Barnard, Vt., during the year 1830. He entered the St. Lawrence Academy, remaining there two years. Received a flattering certificate from Asa Barnard, principal, on entering the college at Canton, New York, in 1832. Received the right hand of fellowship at the Vermont Universalist convention, convened at Montpelier, January 17, 1833. Was ordained at the annual meeting of the La-Moile Association of Universalists, held at Georgia, October 17, 1833. He first settled at New Haven, Vt. and occupied the pulpit in various localities. In 1836 was married at West Haven, Vt., to Sophronia Wilson Hendee, widow of Jesse Hendee, born June 2, 1802, at Sharharn, Vt., died September 14, 1879, at Bloomington, Ill. Returned to Pierpont, N. Y., where a daughter was born August 3, 1837, S. Jane Briggs. In the year of 1839 went to Huvelton, New York, and remained in charge of the Universalist church until July, 1843, when he came to Illinois. Then it seemed like going out of the world almost. I have heard my mother say, the friends all bid them good-bye as though they never expected to meet again, and with some it became too true. We left Ogdenburg by boat, going down the St. Lawrence river through the Welland canal, Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, landing in Chicago some time in August, having been a little over two weeks on our journey, remaining there until the following October, when we moved to Peoria, Peoria county, Illinois, having taken a charge there, making the trip overland in a double wagon with a span of horses. Another followed containing a few things of household goods we had brought with us from our old home.

Father preached in Peoria, Pekin, Washington, Tremont, Mount Holly, all in Tazewell county, but Peoria, removed to Joliet, Will county, Illinois, in 1848. While living there he preached and taught school. One of the public schools was unmanageable, the older scholars (boys) having taken possession, and driven the teacher out, who left by the way of a window. When asked to take it, he was told that if he could not bring it under control, nothing could be done with it in such a condition. He took hold of it and when he left in the spring of 1851 for Bloomington, Ill., it was with great reluctance and sadness they bid him good-bye. He remained with the church until the fall of 1858, when his voice failing him, he was obliged to relinquish the ministry. While living in Bloomington he preached in Leroy, Chenoa, Mount Pulaski and Atlanta. The summer of 1859 he bought a drug store but soon gave that up, after which he was for several years permanently connected with the Bloomington Pantagraph, being one of the proprietors. In this capacity he spent some years, and occupied the position of editor, and wrote the editorial in the paper on the death of Abraham Lincoln. He was one of the best read men in this part of the state, particularly on religious subjects, and was a most entertaining conversationalist. Always a great writer and reader, his books were his constant solace; in his last years he was not able to write and read, but still his mind was bright and clear on all subjects. He was a man whose authority was accepted on ancient and modern history. He kept pace with the liberal readers and leaders of the day, was authority on all questions of the past as well as present, and reaching out into the future. We can never give all his greatness and his virtues, for history's page. Such are for our own hearts grown indelibly there. He leaves a valuable library, and his books seem sacred, and a part of himself.

Although it was a great cross for him to lay down his pen and his books

in his last years, he was read to—every day, and after only a few days' confinement in his bed, he found rest and dropped into a peaceful sleep, on Sunday morning, October 27, 1895, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.—Compiled by his daughter, Mrs. S. Jane Briggs Packard.

Wells Colton.

Wells Colton was born at Lenox, Mass., March 8, 1812. He was educated at Lenox Academy and one of the western Massachusetts colleges. While attending school at Lenox he made the acquaintance of the late Judge David Davis, who was then studying law in that village. After his graduation from college, he too studied law. In the meantime, his friend Davis having completed his law studies, moved to Illinois, first to Pekin and then to Bloomington in 1836. After he had completed his studies, probably about the same time Davis came to Bloomington, Colton came here and entered into a law partnership with Davis. They soon secured a large and lucrative practice. At that time, wholesale and retail merchants sold their goods on a credit of a year's time. The financial crash of 1837 bankrupted all the retail and wholesale merchants of the west, as well as most of its business men. This made the collection business very large.

Colton so impressed himself upon the people of his new home that August 17, 1839, he was elected probate justice of the peace of McLean county, and as such was entrusted with full jurisdiction of all probate matters. This important office he held until August 18, 1843. He seems to have practiced his profession here several years before he was admitted to the bar, which was not until 1842. He probably was admitted to the bar in Massachusetts before he came west, and considered his admission here a formality rather than a necessity.

Desiring a wider field for the exercise of his legal abilities, about 1845 or 1846 he moved to St. Louis, then the commercial metropolis of the west. He wanted his partner to go with him, but Davis was too well pleased with Bloomington to leave it, and notwithstanding he was a southern man by birth, he preferred to bring up his children in a free rather than a slave state. At St. Louis, Colton soon acquired a leading position in the able bar of that city. In May, 1849, St. Louis experienced a fire that threatened to burn up the whole city. While walking along the street during the progress of the fire which they were trying to control by blowing up the buildings, Mr. Colton was struck in the chest by a piece of one of the flying timbers, from the wounds of which he died about a week later, May 25.

The bar of St. Louis adopted a memorial to be spread upon the records of their courts, appreciative "of our late friend who had endeared himself to us by his high moral worth, his social intercourse, and his attainments as one of our number."

At the time of his death, Judge Davis was holding court at Decatur, the bar adopted resolutions as a testimony "To his unsullied character for personal worth and integrity—to his exalted sense of the noble, the just and the true in sentiment, in principle, and in action—to his high and honorable conduct as a member of their profession—to the distinguished rank he held among us, and to his attractive social qualities, and virtues that so much endeared him to a large circle of intimate friends who mourn with no common sadness so sudden and unexpected a bereavement."

Sarah Woodruff Davis.

Mrs. Sarah Woodruff Davis, daughter of the late Judge Wm. P. Walker, of Lenox, Massachusetts, was born in Lenox, September 4, 1814.

She was educated at New Haven and Hartford; in the latter place under the instructions of Catharine and Harriet Beecher.

On the 30th of October, 1838, she was united in marriage with Mr David Davis, of Cecil county, Maryland, who having read law in the office of Judge Henry W. Bishop, of Lenox, had settled in Illinois, in the practice of his profession in the fall of 1835.

After her marriage, Mrs. Davis accompanied her husband to his home in Bloomington, where she has continued to reside for more than forty years.

Two children now survive her, George Perrin Davis, and Mrs. Sarah D. Swayne, both of Bloomington, Illinois.

In the month of August, 1879, she visited the sea-shore for the bene-

fit of her health, but not deriving the advantages expected, she went to her native county in Massachusetts, where she was taken seriously ill with a disease of the heart; and after lingering for many weeks, she sank into the repose of death. She died November 9, 1879, in Stockbridge, Mass., at the residence of D. R. Williams, whose wife is a sister to Mrs. Davis.

An old Spanish proverb expresses the sweet truth that inasmuch as we have to die, it is sweet to die at home. Near to the home of her infancy, in the house of a beloved sister, surrounded by her husband and children and other relatives, her blessed spirit returned to God who gave it.

On Tuesday, November 11, appropriate services were conducted at the house of Mr. Williams, by the Rev. Dr. Parker, of the Episcopal church; at the conclusion of which the remains of Mrs. Davis were taken to Bloomington.

The funeral took place at the family residence, at 11 o'clock on Saturday, November 15, 1879, and the services were conducted by the Rev. W. G. Pierce, of Champaign, Illinois, and the Rev. John Maclean, formerly pastor of the First Presbyterian church, where Mrs. Davis was accustomed to worship.

When Sarah Woodruff Walker, pledged her faith and gave her hand to David Davis, she left a home where she had been carefully nurtured, surrounded by a large number of friends, in one of the most charming places this land affords. She left father and mother, brothers and sisters, and abundant opportunities for social enjoyment and culture, and came cheerfully with her husband to this, at that time, really new country, and to this place, then a little village of five hundred inhabitants. Amid changing events, he never passed through any rough place but she was continuously by his side. He had no sorrows or trials which she did not help him to bear; and no joy of life into which she did not enter with full heart. Her life was as free and as full of content in the little cottage that first gave them shelter, and her welcome to friends as genuine and graceful, as here where, in these later years, she dispensed such abundant and kindly hospitality. With added years, she always grew to the measure of new and added duties. She was identified with Bloomington during almost its entire history, growing in influence and the ministry of love, as the social circle enlarged, and its duties became greater.

She carried with her the same power to attract friends abroad that she had at home; and messages of sympathy and loss came to us all over the land. No place was so high, none so humble that she could not fill and grace. The secret of this was genuineness. "She did nothing that she did not do well," said one to me, since she died. George McDonald says: "To know one who is positively to be trusted, will do more for a man's moral nature, yea, for his spiritual nature, than all the sermons he has ever heard or ever will hear." All who came within the pure atmosphere of Mrs. Davis' life, felt this wholesome influence. She was wholly genuine and trustworthy. She did her duty as she saw it, but she saw it not so much a word to be spoken, as something to be done. I doubt if those about her ever heard her say much about duty, or ever thought that she failed to do it. If there were any promptings needed, any courage to be strengthened, any challenge of herself to be faithful to the gifts and opportunities God had given her, they were sought in her secret communings with him who has promised, that as our day is our strength shall be. Life was a rich gift which she accepted with loving confidence of one who never questioned the wisdom of God. It was something by which to bless and be blessed. For her the sun did not shine in vain, nor in vain did the flowers bloom, nor earth spread out its landscapes, nor the sky its brighter hues. They wrought within her a "kindred order" and beauty. There always sprang up around her, responsive to her touch, order, grace and beauty.

But her human sympathies were her charm, and were as strong as they were wise. She entered freely into human aspirations, hopes and plans. She loved the society of the young, for whom she always kept her heart fresh and warm, and for whom she had strong attraction. None ever associated with her without feeling quickened and strengthened for a true and useful life. She was quick to feel the misfortunes of others; and had what I have sometimes thought the rarer virtue of sympathy with their successes and joys.

You have many unrecognized mourners in your midst who feel that they have lost their best and truest friend on earth. It was to her they went with their cares and sorrows, and from her received kindness and help in their distress. There are no more sincere mourners today than some who have been encouraged and relieved by her in their dark hours. And she was careful never to humiliate a soul with her gifts. She rather ennobled and honored those who received them. All here today, rise up to pronounce a blessing on her memory. Identified with your culture, your society, your benefactions, her life was a silver weft woven into the warp of your history. All loved her and she had not an enemy in the world.

Adapted from the funeral address of Rev. W. G. Pierce.

To these appreciative words of her friend, little need be added. Highly educated herself, she was the warm friend of education in Bloomington, was one of the principal promoters and supporters of the Ladies' Library Association, the predecessor of our Public Library. Avoiding as far as possible all publicity her charities to the poor and needy were unceasing, increasing year by year with her husband's wealth. While caring nothing for social display, her sunny disposition, intelligence, brightness and sympathy for all that was high and holy, made her a most welcome guest in all circles, high or low, rich or poor, for to all alike she was ever a Christian lady, sincerely unassuming, unsparing of her time, energies and wealth, in all good work.

Oliver Ellsworth.

Oliver Ellsworth, of the family of Oliver Ellsworth of Revolutionary fame, good old Puritan stock, was born at Ellington, Conn., August 29, 1812. Raised on a farm, he received a good sound common school education. He was a natural mechanic, handy with tools, and learned the trade of maker of tinners' tools and became an expert worker in iron.

About 1837 he came west to Bloomington, Ill., following his elder brother, Charles, who came here a few years before him and went into the employ of Lewis Bunn, then the leading blacksmith in McLean county. The blacksmith was not then as now the simple repairer of iron instruments; he made everything of iron that the farmer used, plows, harrows, carriage irons, knives, forks, etc. Young Ellsworth was so expert in the business that in a few years he was taken into partnership by Mr. Bunn and they devoted themselves particularly to the manufacture of plows. Their plows became so popular that they could not supply the demand. It was before the days of railroads and farmers came in their farm wagons from far and near to get these plows and at one time the firm rented a large pasture in which the customers' teams were kept while waiting. This continued until about 1853, when they were burned out, and Mr. Ellsworth formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Abraham Brokaw, an expert wood-worker, in the manufacturing of plows. This partnership continued until Mr. Ellsworth's death, November 27, 1871. Their plows were the standard for excellence in all Central Illinois. Their trade extended to Will county on the north, to Shelby county on the south, from Indiana on the east, to Peoria on the west, and many farmers would use no other than the Brokaw and Ellsworth plow. Mr. Ellsworth accumulated a large fortune for those days, about $75,000.

Ex-Mayor Bunn, the son of his old partner says, "Oliver Ellsworth was one of the best men that ever lived, he was genial, jovial, full of quiet humor, never got angry, or out of patience." He married Miss Adeline Hays and after her death Miss Caroline Noble. This widow and a young daughter survived him only a few years.

Mr. Ellsworth was a Whig in politics and upon the dissolution of that party he became a Republican. He was alderman in Bloomington in 1855-6 and was as faithful in his public services as in his private affairs. General Gridley, once seeing a load of their plows, said that Brokaw and Ellsworth were doing more for Bloomington than all the merchants in it.

Captain Francis Julius Fitzwilliam.

CITIZEN AND SOLDIER.

Francis Julius Fitzwilliam was born at Bainbridge, Ohio, July 11, 1840, and was the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Fitzwilliam and descendant of Right Honorable William Wentworth Fitzwilliam, an earl of England. His grandfather left his native heath and came to America, settling in Washington county, Pa., where now reside some of his de-

scendants, while others settled in Ross county, Ohio. The subject of our sketch was early inspired to secure an education, and to learn the details of a mercantile life. He attended the district school of his native village until about fourteen years of age, when he was sent by his father to assist in the establishment of a branch store in a town several miles distant from his home. The skill and courage exhibited when a youth in making collections of money for his father—as he threaded the lonely roads on horseback—were traits which gave character to all future enterprises.

With his new store well established he returned to his home and entered Union Academy, where he made rapid progress. Under the tuition of a private tutor of rare accomplishments he prepared himself for a college course, upon which he entered in 1859, at the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. Two years of student life at this noted institution had been profitably spent, and but for the spirit of war which was then uppermost in the thought of the nation, he would have completed the full curriculum of the University. But to use his own language "I no more than others could study with our country in peril." During 1860-61 he was a member of the "Olentangy Grays," a volunteer organization made up of college students at the Deleware University, organized to drill and prepare for the more arduous duties of soldier life. He left college in 1861 and enlisted as first lieutenant of Company G, 33rd Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commander by Col. Lill.

He continued to hold the rank until honorably discharged, October 10, 1864, although he was promoted to and acted in the capacity of captain of his company for two years. He declined to be mustered in his captain's commission as that obligated him to the service of three additional years or during the war. Early in 1862 the 33rd Ohio Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, and before it was fully equipped, crossed the Ohio river at Maysville, Kentucky, and joined in the memorable campaigning of Gen. Nelson against Humphrey Marshall, who had entered eastern Kentucky through the gap of the Cumberland mountains, and was devastating that loyal portion of the state with fire and sword. The regiment marched via Flemingsburg to Prestonburg and Piketon, Col. James A. Garfield then commanding the 42nd Ohio, landed at Catlettsburg, Kentucky, at the mouth of the Big Sandy river, late in December, 1861, and assuming command of the troops then assembling at that point, proceeded up the river into the mountains, overtaking and defeating Humphrey Marshall at Middle Creek, Kentucky, January 10, 1862. Garfield's command was made a part of Gen. Nelson's army and the two commands met at Prestonburg. Humphrey Marshall was defeated and driven out of Kentucky, soon after which the 33rd Ohio descended the Big Sandy and at its mouth took transports down the Ohio to Louisville, where it became part of the division commanded by Gen. O. M. Mitchell's army of the Ohio. In the reorganization of the army, the 33rd Ohio was attached to the First Brigade, First Division, 14th Army Corps, and so remained up to the time Capt. Fitzwilliam was mustered out of service.

Capt. Fitzwilliam was a charming and interesting narrator of scenes and events of his army life, drawing pictures so vivid that even inexperienced listeners were wont to feel that they were fairly in the active field with them. He was an active participant in seventeen severe battles, beside innumerable skirmishes. 'Twas one of his great pleasures to turn aside from the pressing duties and responsibilties of business life and join his comrade soldiers in the state and national encampments. Released from military duties by honorable discharge, he decided to re-enter mercantile life and located at Bloomington, Illinois, in February, 1866, and established the largest dry goods house in Central Illinois, under the firm name of Fitzwilliam & Sons, of which he was the practical head. The wealth and fashion of the community found ample opportunity to gratify their most extravagant and delicate taste in the purchase of goods, for the most elegant fabrics of all kinds were to be found upon the shelves at this emporium. In 1892 he sold his large establishment and organized the National Home Building and Loan Association, which under his administration reached the largest proportions of business of any similar financial institution in the state. He resigned from the presidency of this association in January, 1896, to enter upon the quiet of re-

tired life which he had richly earned and deserved. In 1866, after locating his future business he returned to his native state and married Lucretia Mott Read, of New London, Ohio, a most estimable and lovely woman, who died April 23, 1893. From this union there were born two sons and two daughters.

On June 23, 1896, Mr. Fitzwilliam married Miss Sarah E. Raymond, of Boston, formerly superintendent of the city schools of Bloomington, from which position she resigned August, 1892, after serving in that capacity for eighteen years. April 1, 1897, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzwilliam took up their residence in Chicago, where after gathering about them the comforts, conveniences and treasures of a home, they had looked forward to a few years of leisure and contentment, before the infirmities of age brought its sufferings and burdens.

But alas! how idle are human plans. "Man proposes, but God disposes." In the midst of one of the happiest of homes death came and claimed for its own one of the most cheerful and home-loving of men and devoted husbands.

On the 23rd of December, 1899, surrounded by his family, the last tie of earth was broken, and the sweet spirit of a devoted father, husband and patriot took its flight for the celestial realms, leaving behind him loving ties and pleasantest of memories. He left behind him a rich legacy of good works and Christian character. He united with the First M. E. church at Bloomington soon after taking up his residence there, and was one of its most ardent workers and generous supporters.

No task was too great for him to enter into if the growth and usefulness of the church was involved. For fourteen years he filled the office of superintendent of the Sunday school, and it was a period of marked prosperity in this branch of the church's work.

One of his last acts to further the religious interests of Bloomington was to found a mission chapel on W. Washington street, and in honor of his deceased wife named it "Lucretia Chapel." It is a worthy monument to the benevolence of a practical Christian gentleman. He gave generously, not ostentatiously, to all worthy objects. He was for many years a member of the Public Library Board, working effectively here as in other public affairs. Whatever one may have known to appreciate in his public life, to have known him in his home was a greater privilege. His home was his kingdom.

To all he was courteous and genial and made all who came within his influence feel that he was a man to trust and respect.

His hand-grasp was magic and a true index of the cordial spirit within. In the home he was most indulgent and cheering, always brushing away the hard things of life for the dear ones about him. Peacefully, honorably, he met and discharged all life's duties, and sleeps with his father, mother, sisters, brothers and wife in the quiet of the Evergreen Cemetery at Bloomington, Illinois.—S. E. Raymond Fitzwilliam.

Sarah E. Raymond Fitzwilliam.

Mrs. Fitzwilliam was blessed with a fortunate inheritance from both maternal and paternal ancestors. Her mother descended from a stock which traces back to persons of historic distinction and whose representatives are noted for their success as thinkers, lawyers and business men.

Her father found the fountain head of his ancestors in noble commanders and organizers. His immediate predecessors were especially distinguished in educational and religious work and along inventive mechanical lines. Both parents were of English descent and among the earliest settlers of Massachusetts, from which state her parents emigrated in 1834 to Kendall (then La Salle) county, Illinois, where the subject of this sketch was born.

Of Puritan training, education and religion were the chief concerns of life. She early joined the orthodox Congregational church. Her early advantages were the best afforded by the times and locality. Under the finest teachers then in the west she studied, and at the early age of twelve years was engaged in the study of French and Algebra in addition to the common English branches. Her first year of school was passed in a little log house used on Sundays as a church for the Congregational society. When the windows were placed in the Congregational church building at the corner of Mulberry and East streets, in Bloomington, she purchased one and dedicated it to the memory of her

father and mother. Worked in the design is a picture of this little, old log school house and church. At the age of eleven years, she attended the academy at Lisbon, Illinois, near the home of her parents. Here the finest corps of teachers in the west was located. They were from Vermont and had been selected for their work in this institution by Governor Slade, then governor of the Green Mountain state. In 1856 Mr. Raymond was elected sheriff of Kendall county and moved to the county seat, Oswego. Here the daughter entered the high school. While residing in this village she made the acquaintance of Prof. C. D. Wilbur, who became an intimate friend of the family, and keenly interested in her future education, particularly advocating the State Normal University at Normal, Illinois, which institution she entered in September, 1862. She completed her course in 1866, and supplemented her country school experience as a teacher by two years' work as one of the faculty at Fowler Institute at Newark, Ill., a private school of a very high order, founded by a brother of Bishop Fowler.

In September, 1868, she enlisted as a teacher in the Bloomington public schools, under S. M. Etter, then superintendent. Within five years she had filled the positions of second primary teacher, principal of a three-room grammar school, followed by the principalship of an eight-room grammar school, located at the corner of Walnut and West streets, and one term as first assistant in the high school. In September, 1873, she was elected principal of the high school to succeed Dr. B. P. Marsh, who had left educational work for the medical profession. In June, 1874, she was elected superintendent of all the schools of the city, which position she held until August, 1892, when she resigned to take up her residence in Boston, completing at this time twenty-four years of uninterrupted service in connection with the Bloomington public schools.

In 1892 there were 420 graduates of the Bloomington high school, and Miss Raymond personally directed or assisted in the direction of the exercises of all but twelve. She attended the graduating exercises of all the above, except two, (class of 1864). During the time intervening between 1874 and 1892 there were 1,637 graduates from the grammar school and about 40,000 different pupils. Of the forty-eight different members of the Board of Education acting between 1857 and 1892 Miss Raymond had dealings with thirty-three of them, either as teacher, principal or superintendent, and with twenty-four different ones during her last official capacity.

Not a gentleman principal was employed in the public schools of Bloomington from 1868 to 1874 except Dr. Marsh, who was principal of the high school. This period covers the administrations of Superintendents Etter and Gaylord. To the office of superintendent was added that of secretary of the board, which carried with it careful clerical work, and much responsibility, in the early school days, when finances were a thing to be studied with strictest care with a view to economy.

Her excellent article on the Bloomington public schools, published in this volume renders unnecessary any extended review of her work there, but it is fitting that it should be supplemented by some personal details of her school and other public work.

Miss Raymond brought to her school work good scholarship, fine business abilities, unrivalled tact and executive powers of a high order. Complaints by teachers, pupils or parents were rare. She knew just what to do with foolish girls and self-conceited boys, and many a boy and girl owe their salvation to her wise and thoughtful talks with them. We quote briefly from many of the things said by the public press, at the close of her administration:

"Bloomington has received from her intellect and her labors a legacy that figures cannot represent. When she came to this city its school system had not advanced from infancy's state. During her term of office it grew and became the perfection it now is. Miss Raymond has been conscientious, able and just in her work. Under her management she has earned the public schools of this city a high reputation abroad. She has done more for present and future Bloomington than any other man or woman that has lived here within the past twenty-five years. No words of praise that might be spoken or written are so eloquent as her success nor no monument erected so stately or magnificent as the schools of Bloomington. These she leaves as lasting monuments to her name."

Associated with Miss Raymond during nearly all her official service was Miss Georgina Trotter, who proved an invaluable aid, in looking after many of the details of repairs on school buildings and heating apparatus thereby relieving the superintendent of duties consuming much time. Miss Trotter was the first lady to be elected to the Board of Education in Bloomington. Her record as a business woman and superintendent of a department in the sanitary commission during the Civil War, gave her great prestige in the community, and she brought to this new field of interest, many rare qualities of character, which Bloomington recognized for many years. She unites in a remarkable degree the highest womanly qualities with sound judgment and a profound knowledge of human nature, which rendered her also the best local politician Bloomington has ever known. From the first Miss Trotter believed in Miss Raymond and devoted her rare powers to her advancement. This particularizing, is not intended to detract from the able and sympathetic work and support of all other members of the Board in the herculian work which was being carried on for the educational interests of the city, for the Board of Education during all these years was composed of the ablest and most distinguished citizens.

Miss Raymond's labors were not confined to school work, but made itself felt in every charitable work in Bloomington. The beautiful public library building is a monument to the beneficent energies of Misses Raymond and Trotter. When the library was almost in extremes Miss Raymond was elected its president. She determined to erect a library building which with the co-operation of Miss Trotter, she did. Though the other members of the Board of which the writer was one assisted, it is but just to say that Bloomington owes this building to Mrs. Raymond-Fitzwilliam and Miss Trotter.

The Benevolent Society, of Bloomington, as well as the Industrial School for Girls, were both organized at the call of Miss Raymond. She was for several years president of the Woman's Educational Association of the Illinois Wesleyan University; twice president of the Woman's State Teachers' Association; acting president of the Central Illinois Teachers' Association one year; president of the Alumni Association of the Illinois Normal University, one year; secretary of the Illinois State Teachers' Association two years; first president of the School Mistresses' Club of Illinois; president of the Illinois Plato Club for two years. She was assistant superintendent of the First M. E. Sunday school for twelve years.

On her resignation of her public work in Bloomington she removed to Boston and devoted herself to literary and charitable work for which her large executive abilities admirably fitted her. She was a member of the Boston Folk Lore Society; the Educational Association and the Associated Charities. She was a national and international delegate to the congress of Charities at the World's Fair in 1893.

On June 23, 1896, she was married to Capt. Francis J. Fitzwilliam and they removed to Chicago for their future home. Here this well-known and respected couple found themselves surrounded by many former friends and rapidly made the acquaintance of new and interesting ones. They rapidly became an integral part of the club, social and religious life of their section of the city. Mrs. Fitzwilliam is actively connected with several of the most influential clubs and organizations for the betterment of the city. In keeping with her Bloomington record, she is the busy woman in Chicago. She welcomes to her home with characteristic cordiality, all her early time friends and distinguished artists from the various asthetic lines.

Andrew J. Flesher.

Andrew J. Flesher was born in Pendelton county, Virginia, March 28, 1825. His parents moved to Ohio when he was eleven years old. In 1841 they came to Illinois and located on a farm south of Lexington.

Mr. Flesher always enjoyed his books and was eager to acquire an education. The school privileges of a new country were meager but he made such excellent progress in the acquisition of knowledge that he was engaged as a teacher in the country schools when only eighteen years of age. He taught in the country districts six years and was then invited to take charge of the first school opened in Lexington. Soon after this he left teaching in which he had been unusually successful and went to farming. In 1865 he moved to Lex-

ington and engaged in the lumber business and soon after became cashier in the bank of J. C. Mahan & Co., and after a number of years in the bank he engaged in mercantile business in Lexington. In 1876 he again went to farming, continuing on the farm until 1886 when he re-engaged in the grocery business in which he continued until his death April 6, 1901, the later years of his life in company with his son, Charles R.

Mr. Flesher was married to Sarah C. Brown in 1848. Of this marriage three children survive, Charles R. and Mrs. W. G. Long, of Lexington, and L. G. Flesher, of Newman's Grove, Neb. Mrs. Flesher died in 1894 and in 1896 he married Miss Lizzie Boyd.

No man ever lived in Lexington more highly respected by all classes of people in the community than A. J. Flesher. He was honest, honorable, kind and considerate. He was an active and useful member of the Presbyterian church for many years and took a great interest in the church and her service.—Adapted from the Lexington Unit, April 12, 1901.

William E. Foote.

William E. Foote, son of Levi B. and Caroline Foote, was born in Peru, N. Y., May 16, 1826. When about twelve years of age he entered a printing office in Burlington, Vt. Later, while still a youth, he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where, after serving a faithful apprenticeship, he established a little paper of his own in partnership with a young man of his own age. From there he went to Chicago, where he married. Bloomington, Illinois, was his next place of residence, and as proprietor and publisher of the weekly and daily Pantagraph, his best work was accomplished. His lofty ideals, and ideas of excellence he sought to embody in this paper, and it was the joy and pride of his life.

In connection with his publication he carried on a large job-printing business, which for many years included the entire printing of the St. Louis, Alton and Chicago Railroad. His work gained repeated premiums at the state fairs, and in Montreal.

During the Civil War, Mr. Foote sold the Pantagraph and removed to St. Louis, Mo., where for several years he conducted a job-printing office. Subsequently, he was connected with the Chicago Inter-Ocean. His last days were spent in Kansas City, Mo. There he died at the age of fifty-six.

Mr. Foote had a sensitive, refined nature, and was an intense admirer of all that was good and beautiful. He was a self-educated man, whose ambition developed broad knowledge and wide culture. His literary taste was unexcelled. As a writer his work was distinguished for beauty of thought and poetic rhythm. As a printer he was noted for most artistic work.

Isaac Funk's Residence.

May 3, 1824, Isaac and Absalom Funk and William Brock located at Funk's Grove. Land had to be prepared for a crop and the crop planted and shelter erected. Getting a crop in was so pressing that little time could be spared for house building. Isaac Funk's first cabin was built near the present residence of his son Isaac. It was a small pole cabin 12 by 14 feet, covered by the bark of the linden tree, kept in place by weight poles; the floor was laid with peeled elm bark, Indian fashion. No windows and one door made of clapboards and a stick chimney. Afterwards a window was put in, also a puncheon floor and the roof replaced by riven four-feet clapboards, and this house duly chinked and daubed served the family until April, 1832, when it was destroyed by fire, while the family was attending the funeral of Mr. Funk's father. It was replaced immediately by a hewed log cabin, a picture of which is the one on the left-hand side of the Funk cabins. In 1836 the cabin on the left hand of the picture was erected. It had a porch extending several feet over to the end of the cabin built in 1832, making a covered way between the two houses. Each of these cabins was 18 feet square; each had a window and puncheon floor and a stick chimney. In 1841-2 Mr. Funk built his first frame house, which served him until 1864, when he built his second frame house, which was destroyed by fire on October 19, 1889.

The Funk cabins of 1832 and 1836 were drawn from descriptions furnished by Mr. George W. Funk and from a photograph of the remains of the cabin.

The Children of Isaac and Cassandra Funk.

The children of Isaac and Cassandra Funk were all born in Funk's Grove. George W., May 14, 1827; Adam, August 27, 1828, died in 1847; Jacob, April 7, 1830; Duncan M., June 1, 1832; LaFayette, January 20, 1834; Francis M., August 13, 1836, died September 10, 1899; Benjamin F., October 17, 1837; Absalom, March 3, 1842; Isaac, May 13, 1844; Sarah, now Mrs. Kerrick, May 14, 1846. They have all kept their residence in McLean county and are engaged in agricultural pursuits. Several of the sons have taken considerable part in politics and other public business. They are all Republicans.

George W., the oldest, represented McLean county in the Twenty-seventh General Assembly.

Lafayette served in the lower house of the Thirty-third General Assembly; he was elected to the senate and served in the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions thereof. He also served as a member of the State Board of Agriculture from 1882 to 1894 continuously, and later served two years more on the same board; part of the time he was president of the board. He was appointed by the Governor, Senior World's Fair Commissioner, and by virtue of that appointment was President of the State Commission. At present he is a director of the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill., succeeding John B. Sherman, and is now a member of the State Board of Agriculture and chairman of the Board of Supervisors of McLean county.

Jacob is president of the State National Bank of Bloomington, Ill.

Duncan M. represented McLean county in the Fortieth, Forty-first and Forty-second General Assemblies. He has been for a long time president of the First National Bank of Bloomington, Ill. He was also a resident trustee for a long series of years for the Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home at Normal, Ill., and is a member of the Illinois commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904.

Francis M., deceased, was for eighteen years a member of the school board of the city of Bloomington and president of the board the last years of his life.

Benjamin F. represented the Thirteenth Illinois district in the Fifty-third United States Congress. He was five successive years mayor of the city of Bloomington.

Absalom and Isaac have given less time to politics; they are both working Republicans, but have not sought public office.

Sarah E., the only daughter and youngest child, is the wife of L. H. Kerrick of Bloomington, Ill.

Virginia Hayden Graves.

Virginia Hayden Graves was born in Hopkinsville, Ky., on July 23, 1829. Her ancestors were of Scotch-Irish extraction and served with distinction in the Revolutionary War.

With her family she emigrated from Kentucky to Bloomington, Illinois, in the spring of the year 1836—coming by boat up the Cumberland river to the Ohio river—thence by boat to the Mississippi river—thence by boat to Peoria, Illinois. The journey from Peoria to Bloomington was made by wagon and is long to be remembered. The streams and creeks were swollen into rivers and oftimes the teams became mired in the bogs.

When they arrived in Bloomington there was not even a school-house or church in the then small village.

Their first home was situated on the southeast corner of Front and Center streets, where they lived for some years. From there they moved to the Stephen Smith corner where the family resided for some years. In the adjoining lot was the sand bank from which all sand used in the city in those days was obtained. In this sand bank on winter nights the prairie wolves would often congregate and make night hideous with their cries.

Her father died when she was ten years of age and from that time she was compelled to shift largely for herself.

She first attended school in a school located where Judge Scott's house now stands. Afterwards she went to Dr. Hobb's school held in the court house.

When sixteen years of age she commenced teaching school about two miles southwest of Bloomington, near Lander's old saw mill. Among her pupils at that school were: Martin H. Newton and Mrs. John T. Walton, of Bloomington, and Mr. Wm. Kitchell, of Heyworth. Later she taught school at Waynesville and Pleasant Hill, Illinois, also in Bloomington. Among her scholars in Bloomington were James S. Ewing, T. J. Bunn, Mrs. Dr. Dyson.

She was married to Linus Graves in 1847 and for two years thereafter lived at Waynesville, Illinois, coming back to Bloomington they purchased the entire south half of the block where the New Illinois Hotel is now located for the small sum of $800. Here they erected a home which they subsequently moved to 1109 E. Grove street, and which is still occupied by members of the family.

Mr. Graves was the founder of the Bloomington cemetery which still is owned and held by the family and was also for many years engaged in mercantile business in this city.

Mrs. Graves is a well preserved woman and remembers remarkably well the events and happenings of the early times. She remembers distinctly the sudden freeze so often referred to by the pioneers. Her father in coming from his shop home, a distance of three blocks, was frozen fast to the ground. The hat he was wearing was blown away and was found in the following spring some three miles from town.

Mrs. Graves has been a member of the Methodist church in Bloomington ever since she was ten years of age and an enthusiastic temperance worker. She is a woman of pure Christian character. At present she resides with her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Means, 1117 East Grove street. She still retains her health and vigor and takes an active interest in the events of today. She is a member of the McLean County Historical Society and interested in preserving the history of McLean county. Four of her children are still living. They are: Mrs. J. C. Means, wife of County Treasurer Means, Mr. Walter H. Graves in the service of the government among the Indians, Arthur J. Graves, manager of the Bloomington cemetery and Linus Graves, of Sacramento, California.

Henry Lou's Shafter Haskell.

Henry Louis Shafter Haskell was born at Weathersfield, Vt., December 12, 1818, on his father's farm, where he spent his early years except the summers of 1834 and 1827 when he was steward on a packet boat on the Erie canal. In 1842 he left the farm for the academy at Unity, N. H., teaching winters. In 1844 he entered Norwich, Vt., University, and graduated in 1846, studied law a year, then went to Georgia a year and there studied law a year and in 1849 came to Illinois, reaching Bloomington, July 5, and commenced the study of law in General Gridley's office. In the fall of 1849 he taught school in the Orendorff district. It was a public school aided by subscription. He had $2 a scholar per month. His wages were $50 for three months. His board was $1 per week. Everything then was very low, wheat forty cents a bushel, corn five cents in the field, seven in the shock and ten delivered in town.

At Bloomington C. P. Merriman was editing the Bloomington Whig. George W. Minier was principal of the seminary. A. H. Brown was teaching in the south part of town, and Joseph Macon had a school in Headquarters, J. C. Duncan's store, northwest corner Center and Washington streets. These five gentlemen organized a teachers' institute, meeting every Friday night. Mr. Haskell was assigned a subject, "How we can best advance the cause of education in McLean county." He said we needed a fountain from which recruits would come for every branch of learning and science and consequently we needed a university; that Bloomington was eligibly situated on the projected line of the Illinois Central and other roads, with no colleges east of us or near us. Each was enthusiastic. We agitated the subject, a meeting was called, and when it was about to fail, James Allin offered ten acres near where the railroad shops now are. When the railroad came this ten acres was exchanged for the present location and this was the beginning of the Wesleyan. James Miller, James White, Dr. T. P. Rogers and William H. Allin were also prominent in starting the Wesleyan.

Mr. Haskell gives us a word picture of the schools as they then were in the following language:

"In the winter of 1850 and 1851 the town was under the control of trustees, but no public school houses had been built. There were private schools in various parts of the town, many taught by ladies, but in what buildings I cannot tell. Mr. A. H. Brown was teaching south of Front street, near residence of Hazo Parsons, (P. M.) Rev. Wm. E. Dodge (in 1850) taught in Baptist church, on Madison street, and Joseph Macon taught a boys' school in the old Headquarters store of J. C. Duncan & Co., northwest corner of court square and Washington street. After

the close of my school I visited, on invitation, Macon's school. Facing east, two large windows, on either side of a broad door through which, on entering, you beheld about thirty or more boys seated on slab or plank seats, without backs behind or desks in front to rest upon, arranged in rows, with a broad alley between, till you come to a narrow window looking out on Washington street. The boys facing east, the light from the broad windows shining on their eyes and their books in the shadow.

"Not long after, the boys (in playing ball on Court House Square, near the jail at the northwest corner, occupied as a residence by Jonathan Glimpse,) knocked the new-washed clothing from the drying lines. Mrs. Glimpse tried to remonstrate, but the boys replied in vigorous English in which profanity and obscenity largely predominatetd.

"The next morning the sheriff came along east side of Main street, from Washington to Front, telling different persons of the outrage of the boys. On reaching the corner of Main and Front street, I heard the news; and, thinking it a good time to act, laid the case before the trustees.

"The treasurer, by his record, showed that the trustees had laid off five districts in the town extending some of them, into the country; but it had been done more than five years before that date. But as the people not organizing by the election of directors, their work was outlawed. The trustees and treasurer were busy but said to me, if you will re-write that record we will come to A. Gridley's office and sign it to date. I re-wrote it and trustees executed it.

"The next duty was for the people to organize, which was done quietly, friends consulting with friends. Wm. Thomas, John Dawson, Joshua Harlan, Peter Folsom, James White, James Miller, J. L. Wolcott, Amasa C. Washburn, Dr. R. O. Warriner, Linus Graves, Rev. Maris, Wm. Dimmit, Judge David Davis, and many others, whose names are not now remembered, took an active part. Peter Folsom secured a lot (where now the second ward school house stands) on which a school house was erected. Wm. Thomas bought and held a lot on East Jefferson street, until the money could be raised by tax to build a house. In the south part of town J. L. Wolcott and Amasa C. Washburn were both elected as directors and their district voted tax to build a school house."

Mr. Haskell left Bloomington, August 14, 1851, for Metamora, Illinois; was in practice until 1861, quit law, (for war), was a private in Co. K, Eleventh Illinois, was mustered out at end of three months. Farmed in Woodford county till March, 1865. On the 15th of that month came to the farm on which he now resides, in Sec. 2, Dale township, McLean county, Ill.

N. B. Heafer.

Napoleon B. Heafer was born December 14, 1825, at Charlestown, West Virginia. Early in life he took up his abode in Kentucky. At Jamestown, in the latter state, he met Miss Elizabeth S. Clark, whom he married January 11, 1849. They became the parents of seven children, one of whom, Waldo, died at the age of six years, the remaining children, all of whom are still alive are, Mrs. Laura E. Holmes, Edward M., Mrs. Parthenia C. Bloomer, Arthur, Mrs. Hallie Athey and Mrs. Cora Fisher. The wife and mother died November 21, 1894, aged 66 years.

In 1857 Mr. Heafer started with many other McLean county gentlemen for Pike's Peak, but while on the plains of Kansas, he was taken sick and compelled to return to St. Joseph, Mo. Having discovered an opportunity to engage in the brick business, his family who were then temporarily living in Kentucky, joined him and while engaged in business here he constructed one of St. Joe's largest hotels. Early in the spring of 1859, the Pike's Peak fever again possessed him and so he and his family were soon making their way overland across the vast plains in search of gold. While his efforts in the gold field were not altogether futile, yet they were not well rewarded. Returning to Bloomington in the fall of the same year, he took an active part in Republican politics and remained an ardent Republican until the day of his death. After tilling the soil of forty acres awhile and taking such contracts in masonry as he could secure, for he was a master brick mason, he in 1862 formed a partnership with James H. McGregor for the manufacture of brick and construction in masonry, both brick and stone, which partnership continued until 1883. During this time they constructed among other edifices, too numerous to mention, the city water

works, including the stand pipe, the McLean county court house, which burned June 19, 1900, the present McLean county jail, old postoffice, old Durley building, and Judge David Davis' magnificent residence. Not only was Mr. Heafer endowed with ability to contrive ways and means to an end but he also was possessed with much inventive genius.

Among his inventions is the brick pavement, constructed with a flat lower course and an edge upper course of common hard burnt brick which plan of construction where it is necessary to exercise economy has by no means been abandoned. He constructed (about 1870) for the city of Bloomington on the west side of the public square, the first brick pavement ever constructed in the United States.

He invented a new method of burning brick which consisted in excavating the kiln ground and then filling the excavation with bituminous coal. In this way he secured as favorable results with six or eight brick benches as is usual with two or three brick benches. When such coal became ignited the effects of escaping gas was wonderful and after employing the same filling for three or four kilns there resulted a splendid coke which could be applied to many valuable uses. He invented several tile kilns. Still another invention consisted in employing the earth found in the highway, burning it where found and applying it in such forms as might be desirable for the production of hard roads. He invented a truck to which a horse could be attached to carry from 500 to 800 brick from the yard to the kiln, thus substituting horse power for the work of man. This device he used successfully and practically to the end of his brickmaking career. In connection with this, he invented a contrivance (which apparently worked) in the manner of a man lifting himself by his boot straps) for hoisting a truckload of brick up to the setter, thus again, substituting the horse for the man. It is believed that he obtained patents on all of the foregoing improvements except the street paving. He was kind-hearted, liberal-spirited and broad-minded, which characteristics always made him popular with his employes and those whom he served in the capacity of a contractor.

In the year of 1884 his health failed and he quit the brick business but retained his interest in the drain tile business until the Heafer Tile Works burned in December, 1888. These works were established by him and his son, Edgar, in 1874, being the first tile works in McLean county and the second in Central Illinois.

Thorough relief from his physical ailments was never afforded him and after many years of intense suffering he died July 10, 1898.

J. J. Henline.

James Jackson Henline, one of the very first settlers of Northern McLean county, was born near Burlington, Boone county, Kentucky, November 9, 1815. He came with his parents to this county in the fall of 1828. His father, John Henline, with his two brothers, George and William, also their father, George Henline Sr., settled on t' upper Mackinaw. In the fall of that year, John, the father of J. J. Henline, built his house on section 30, about one-half of a mile north of where the Evergreen church now stands, his brother, William, settling some distance farther up the grove, while his brother, George, located down the Mackinaw some distance below the present city of Lexington.

John Henline, the father of J. J., was born in Madison county, Kentucky, on November 7, 1787, and departed this life July 26, 1869. His mother, Mary (Parnell) Henline, was born January 22, 1791, and died November 28, 1865. They are both buried in the Evergreen cemetery.

J. J. Henline endured without flinching all the hardships incident to pioneer life and did his part in subduing the wilderness. His recollections of the deep snow of the winter of 1830-31 and its attendant hardships are very vivid, neither has he forgotten the sudden change of December, 1836, which caught him some little distance from home and all but froze him before he reached shelter. In 1835 not yet being of age he had his father enter the land on which he now lives. It is worthy of note that a few years ago Mr. Henline was presented with a gold headed cane by the old settlers' association of Logan county, in consideration of the fact that he was the longest continuous resident on the same farm within their knowledge, there being

no transfer of the home place since he received it from the government. On Christmas day, 1839, Mr. Henline and Miss Sarah Smith were united in marriage, 'Squire Jacob Spawr performing the ceremony. The young couple began house-keeping in a new house erected for that purpose by the groom. This house differed somewhat from most of the others built by the early settlers, in that it had a board floor instead of a puncheon floor while the doors were also of boards, the lumber being sawed at John Patton's mill, who by the way, was an uncle of the bride.

Mr. Henline's occupation until recent years has been that of farming and raising and feeding cattle in which he has been very successful, as he at one time owned almost or quite one thousand acres of land, of which he still owns 270, this includes the original tract he first received from the government on which he has always lived, and the title to which I believe is signed by President Andrew Jackson.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henline were born eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, nine of whom are still living. Mrs. Henline died February 12, 1883, but he is still living and, although in his 87th year, delights to talk of the old times when this country was new.

It may be well to note some reasons why Mr. Henline's life should be of interest to all who wish to acquaint themselves with early settlement of our country.

He is one of the very first to settle here enduring all the hardships of pioneer life, so can speak from experience. Again he is possibly the only one living who attended the first school held in northern McLean county.

In the fall of 1830 a log school house was built at the Henline settlement on section 31, Lawndale township and a Mr. Sheldon was the first teacher. Mr. Henline, then a boy of fifteen attended that school held seventy-two years ago. He is also one of the very few snow birds left who were here before the deep snow of the winter of 1830-31, when the ground was covered to the depth of four feet on the level and central Illinois was practically snow bound. He is also one of the remaining few who passed through the sudden change of December, 1836, when the thermometer dropped from forty degrees above zero to twenty below in almost an instant of time. This was in the evening and some who underwent that terrible experience characterized the next morning as the most awful that in the memory of man ever dawned in Illinois.

He is also the last survivor of those who did garrison duty at Fort Henline during the Indian troubles of 1832. This fort was about half a mile north of where the Evergreen church now stands and was built near the east line of section 30. It was the largest and strongest fort in our county and was made by cutting logs ten or twelve feet long and ten or twelve inches in diameter. These were split in halves, a trench was dug and the timbers placed perpendicularly in the trench, the dirt being solidly tramped around them, the walls being eight or ten feet high, while these palisades were also securely fastened to heavy cross timbers. There were cabins built at the corners projecting a little from the outer wall, these were loopholed for rifles. These cabins commanded the fort on all sides precluding shelter for an assaulting party and there was a large gate which was also defended by a cabin. This fort was built in Kentucky style as the elder Henlines were well acquainted with Daniel Boone so their knowledge of the Indian warfare was derived from the best of teachers. J. J. Henline has been reported as firing his gun one morning about 2 o'clock while the militia were encamped outside the fort, and it is said the soldiers fell over each other in their frantic efforts to get inside the fort.

Mr. Henline is also the only man now living who was present and assisted at the raising of John Patton's house in the spring of 1829. This house is still in use as a dwelling.

Mr. and Mrs. Henline were given to hospitality; the latch string was always out not only to their friends and neighbors but to all in need of their help. Politically Mr. Henline is a democrat who in his younger days was an ardent admirer and supporter of that great patriot, Andrew Jackson. —A. V. Pierson.

Mary Platt Hoover.

Ezra H. Platt was born in Winchester, Conn., September 17, 1798. In 1815, when in his seventeenth year, he was sent out by the Presbyterian Missionary Society of his native state

as a missionary among the Indians in the south, where he remained four years, doing good work for the religious education of the tribes located in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi; principally the Cherokee, Chocktaw and Chickasaw nations. In 1820, he, with a number of others came west and settled at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Martha Daugherty was born at Penfield, N. Y., April 9, 1802. She came with her family to Michigan in 1818 and located on the site where the city of Ann Arbor now stands. She was united in marriage to Ezra H. Platt March 23, 1820. They soon after removed to their farm at Lyons, Oakland county, where they resided until the death of Mr. Platt in 1845.

Mary Platt, the subject of this sketch, was born at Lyons, May 15, 1837. Soon after the death of her father, her mother moved to Ann Arbor to educate her daughters. Here Mrs. Hoover attended Mrs. Woods' Seminary and later, the female college at Albion. After teaching one year in the district school at Grand Rapids, she went to Bloomington, Ill., in September, 1853, as principal of the preparatory department of the Central Illinois Female College which position she held three years.

On April 15, 1856, she was married to Isaac L. Kenyon, of Bloomington. They made their home in that city until the death of Mr. Kenyon in 1872. Four children were born to them, three of whom are living. Martha, the youngest, died in 1885. Mrs. Kenyon and J. Hoover, M. D., of Industry, Ill., were married in the autumn of 1876 and in 1886 they sought a new home in the west, settling in Bennet, Nebraska. Since going west Mrs. Hoover has found a broad field for usefulness both in church and social life. She was director of music in the Bennet Academy from 1886 to 1889. In 1890 she renewed her old love for study by joining the Chautauqua Reading Circle and received her diploma with the class of 1894, bearing three seals.

Mrs. Hoover believes that the best of life's happiness is found in activity. When her hands are not otherwise employed her knitting-work lies conveniently near and is her favorite pastime while resting. She was honored by having a piece of her lace-work accepted and displayed at the Columbian Exposition in 1893 and as a reward, received a blue ribbon and a cash prize. But that which has received her most earnest effort, in later years is the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Becoming convinced of its importance and the virtue of its methods she has done what she could in all phases of the work to which she has been called. She has held every elective office within the gift of the women except that of state president and vice-president-at-large, and was sent as one of the state delegates to the world's convention which convened at Toronto, Ont., in 1897, and to the national meeting in Buffalo, the same year. Mrs. Hoover believes that women who pay taxes should have a voice in making the laws governing taxation, or that her property should be made exempt from taxes. Also, the laws governing child-life and child-labor should have the finishing touch of woman's thought. Further than this, the home needs her presence more than the political arena or the lecture platform.

Martha E. Packard-Horr.

Martha E. Packard-Horr was born at Milburn, Mass., November 5, 1824, was educated in the public schools and came with her parents to Bloomington in the fall of 1849, where she taught school several years. She first taught in the fall of 1849 and winter following in a building in the rear of Amasa C. Washburn's residence on South Center street. Mr. Washburn, Mr. Keran and Dr. Tompkins were directors. She also taught school in a building near Col. Parson's. Her last teaching was in the Price district. May 1, 1855, she married Elijah Horr.

John Adams Jackman.

John Adams Jackman was born March 22, 1816, in Boscawen, New Hampshire, a small town of which the Rev. Josiah Strong in "Our country," says: "The town of Boscawen was settled in 1734 by a colony of Massachusetts people. Scarcely were they settled than they took steps to secure some 'suitable man and learned' to preach the gospel. The original stock was good and the formative influences Christian."

Charles Carleton Coffin says: "From 1733 to 1737 Boscawen, or Contoocook, as it was called by its first settlers, was the outpost of civilization. From its log cabins to the St. Lawrence there were no human habitations except in the neighboring town of Salisbury;

yet keeping watch and ward, its stalwart citizens boldly maintained their ground against the savage foe."

Among the first settlers or proprietors, as they were styled, were Deacon George Jackman and George Jackman, Jr., (called "'Squire Jackman"), great-grandfather and grandfather of John A. Jackman.

James, the ancestor of the Jackman family in America, was born in Exeter, England, about 1620, and emigrated to this country about 1645, settling in Newbury, Massachusetts, from which town Deacon George Jackman and his sons, George, Jr., and Richard, removed early in 1734, with the company of proprietors who settled in the town of Boscawen; and from that time their names are closely interwoven with its history, both ecclesiastical and civil, until the end of the century.

George Jackman, Jr., was for thirty-six consecutive years town-clerk and during the Revolutionary war was active in the councils of town and state, being a member of the committee of safety, and in other ways rendering service to his country in her hour of need. After the United States became a fact, and the new state government was organized, he was several times elected by his townsmen, representative to the New Hampshire General Assembly.

From such ancestry Mr. Jackman inherited the traits of character which made him the public-spirited citizen and prominent factor which he became in the affairs of every community in which he resided, and which enabled him to surmount all obstacles and achieve the success in life which he gained. Early thrown upon his own resources by the death of his father, he bent every energy towards obtaining such an education as should fit him to take a suitable place in the world. To this end he learned a trade, by which he suported himself and secured the means of attending school during the winter.

Educational advantages early in the nineteenth century were limited to eight or ten weeks of schooling in the winter months, and a term of about the same length in the summer. The winter schools were attended by the boys who, the rest of the time, worked upon the farms, and at their various trades, many of them, stalwart young men, still plodding in simple reading, or bewildering their brains over "fractions."

In this way Mr. Jackman gained his early education, but his was not a nature to be content with so incomplete a mental furnishing, and by dint of reading, attending lyceums and debating societies, and seizing every opportunity to gain fuller knowledge, he became sufficiently advanced to become a school-teacher; which profession he followed for some time. The lyceum in the early nineteenth century, in New England, was the great educational force. Not amusement but instruction was the lecturer's sole aim, and however dry he or his subject might be, if he only conveyed knowledge which his hearers did not already possess, he was listened to with profound attention; there were very few who did not carry away full notes of what they had heard.

Later, in the debating societies the young men made use of the knowledge acquired in the lecture room, by discussing the many problems of interest to that generation.

Mr. Jackman often spoke in the later years of the help he derived from an organization of this kind to which he belonged. Nearly all of its members became men noted in the various walks of life; two became governors of Massachusetts, one a general in the Civil war, and several others achieved success in literature, law and medicine.

After following the teacher's profession for some time he, in 1837 took up what proved to be his life work, becoming one of the pioneer railroad men of the country, witnessing and aiding the evolution of the great railroad system of the United States from its beginning in the early thirties of the nineteenth century to the magnificent development of the last decade.

Starting as station agent of the Boston and Worcester railroad at West Newton, Massachusetts, he soon entered the machinery department and became locomotive engineer. For forty-two years he was actively engaged in his chosen vocation, rising to high position, and gaining a national reputation in railway circles as an expert mechanician, and a man of ability and honor.

When he began his work, railroading was in its infancy, and all its appliances were most primitive. His first engine was a namesake of Stevenson's "Rocket" and but little in advance of it in mechanism. In

Clarke's American Railway, page 102, and also in McLaughlin's history of the United States, page 316, are to be found cuts of the first trains on this railroad in 1834-35, and those of 1837-38 were but little improved. The engine was a four-wheeled affair with a straight smoke-stack and no cab, (these were first introduced in 1840). The cars were of the stage-coach pattern with four wheels. Water for replenishing the boiler was carried in a barrel. These trains ran between Boston and Newton, a distance of ten miles, three times a day, the fare being thirty-seven and a half cents each way.

Thus began a career which followed the development and the establishment of the railroad from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi and during which he saw the states of this great country linked together by bands of steel from ocean to ocean and from northern lakes to the gulf.

Boston was then reaching out by this railroad to cross the seemingly impassible barrier of the Berkshire Hills and enter Albany, which was accomplished in 1841, when one could go by train to Rochester, New York, but must change cars ten times.

Mr. Jackman remained in the service of the Boston and Worcester railroad for fifteen years, rising rapidly from one position of responsibility to another. When the railroad system began its extension to the western country, he removed to Ohio in the fall of 1852, where he took charge of the Cleveland and Toledo railway; now a part of the Lake Shore system; becoming superintendent of machinery and under his supervision the road was completed and fine shops erected at Norwalk, Ohio.

The Cleveland and Toledo railway was in process of construction when Mr. Jackman entered its service, and he took an active part in its development, a task of no little hardship in the comparatively new country through which it passed. His letters to his family at this time show very plainly the contrast between living conditions then and now. As an instance of hardships undergone in the construction of the road, every step of which he personally supervised—he often told of crossing the Maumee river at Toledo in the winter time, wheeling a barrow with some necessary material and obliged to cross in his stocking feet, in order that he might keep his footing upon the icy timbers. In those days railroad managers were obliged to give personal attention to the construction of the road-bed, attending to all details personally—making working drawings and carrying out the plans themselves. T. C. Clarke, the railroad historian, in a recent magazine article says that engineers should justly take rank with statesmen and soldiers, and surely this is true of those who pioneered the work as did Mr. Jackman.

In 1850 Chicago had one short railroad: Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, were open fields. In Ohio was a line from Sandusky to Cincinnati, and in Indiana, one from Indianapolis to Madison, on the Ohio river. A short line from Chicago to Elgin and St.Charles, and a line from Springfield to Naples, were all of which Illinois could boast. An item in the Bloomington "Intelligencer," of March 10, 1852, reads thus: "The first train of cars that ever penetrated the state of Illinois from the east came into Chicago February 20, 1852, at 10:30 a. m., amid the ringing of bells, the firing of cannon and other demonstrations of joy on the part of the good people of the Garden City. A train is now performing its regular daily trips from that city east on the Southern Michigan Railroad." This road crossed Michigan from Detroit to New Buffalo, with a branch to Toledo and it was to furnish a connection with the eastern country that the Cleveland and Toledo railroad was planned and built.

Mr. Jackman had been united in marriage on November 22, 1843, to Miss Sarah F. Sargent, to whom he had been attached from boyhood and with whom he passed an ideally happy married life of nearly fifty-three years. Mrs. Jackman and family remained in Massachusetts until the spring of 1853 when they joined the husband and father and made their home in Norwalk for a number of years, establishing here a home which during their stay was a center of culture and social intercourse, and forming many life-long friendships.

After having been a few months in the west, Mr. Jackman was asked to return to the east, but refused, giving as his reasons, in a letter to his wife, then in the east: "I have embarked in an enterprise too important to abandon thus hastily. I have men who need my attention; that I am not willing to leave as long as they are willing to stick by me, under every circumstance and in every condition."

It was this spirit which endeared

him to every man who worked under his directions, throughout his railroad career. No one who was ill, or in trouble of any sort, ever found him lacking in helpful sympathy, both of word and deed.

During the terrible cholera scourge of 1856, he worked day and night with the physicians, caring for the sick and the dying; nearly sacrificing his own life by his efforts, and by his tender care and skillful nursing saving many lives.

In 1859 he severed his connection with the C. & T. R. R. and returned to Boston, to again enter the service of the Boston and Worcester, now Boston and Albany railroad, as its superintendent of machinery. This move was greatly regretted by his many friends in Ohio, and many were the tokens of the esteem they bore him—and of their sorrow at his departure, and indeed, parting was very hard for him, and ever after he spoke of the years spent in Norwalk as among the happiest of his life.

During his residence in Boston, the country was torn by the Civil war, and the B. & A. R. R. being the chief avenue of communication between New England and the seat of war, he did great service to the state and country by directing and supervising the transportation of troops and supplies. At one time, a rumor having reached John A. Andrew, the war governor of Massachusetts, that the road had been mined, Mr. Jackman himself ran an engine in advance of a troop train, in order that if such an act had been committed, no harm should come to the soldiers. Fortunately, the rumor was untrue, but the deed was none the less that of a brave and fearless man, and merited the commendation it received.

The west was, at this time, constantly demanding energetic, pushing men, and in 1864 Mr. Jackman was offered a much more remunerative and responsible position; and accepting, removed to Bloomington, becoming superintendent of machinery for the Chicago & Alton railroad. He had established himself in the confidence and esteem of all branches of the railroad service, and his removal from Boston was regretted by all, both superiors and employees, and he took with him to his new home substantial tokens of their regard for himself and his family.

Arriving in Bloomington in the early summer of 1864, with his customary energy and vigor, he at once assumed the charge of the railroad shops here, and began such needed improvements in equipment and rolling stock as his experience suggested and soon brought his department to a high degree of efficiency. In the fall of 1867 the shops were destroyed by fire, and new buildings were begun in the spring from plans carefully prepared during the winter under Mr Jackman's supervision. These buildings were not completed until about the beginning of 1870 and were considered model shops, there being at that time nothing of the kind west of Altoona, Pa., that surpassed them. Later, the shop buildings as they stood at the time of his death in 1896, were planned, and their erection begun, though they were not completed until after the expiration of his connection with the road.

Until his retirement from active service in January, 1879, Mr. Jackman held a position of honor with the Chicago & Alton road and under his care the machinery department made great advancement. During his term of service the road was extended to Kansas City and many important improvements made in its outfit. He became known as a most economical, conscientious and efficient man and his services were highly valued by the company.

After his retirement he spent a few years on his farm near Normal, but after a short experience of rural life, returned to his home at 507 West Locust street, in Bloomington, where he passed the remainder of his days in ease and comfort, ministered to by wife, children and grandchildren. Here he died July 29, 1896; past eighty years of age, after several months of suffering and was laid to rest in Evergreen cemetery, July 31, 1896.

His wife and four children, Mrs. Caroline F. Kimball, Mrs. Horace W. Soper, Frank S. Jackman, and Dr. Fred O. Jackman, survived him. His oldest son, John A. Jackman, Jr., died in St. Louis, July 20, 1896, only nine days before his father's demise.

Four granddaughters, children of Mrs. Kimball, had for many years been a part of his household, and the relations between them had ever been those of father and daughters—in affection and kindly care.

He was a man of unusual intelligence, deeply interested in all public questions, and displaying a decided taste for intellectual pursuits, often

during the earlier years of his residence in this city contributing to the daily papers of Bloomington, articles that were original, thoughtful and of superior merit. A short quotation from a poem of welcome delivered before the State Medical Society, meeting in Bloomington, July, 1871, shows his power as a versifier:

"May God in his wisdom preserve you with care.
And give you true strength all your duties to bear,
And as you go hence to the homes of your love
May Heaven's rich blessings still shine from above."

He was an admirer and student of Shakespeare, and delighted in reeiting portions of his plays, most of which he knew by heart, as did he also much of the poetry of Pope, Milton, Dryden and the other early English poets. He was an amateur actor of no little ability, as he proved by taking part in a number of plays for the benefit of the Bloomington Library.

At the dedication of Durley Hall, December 13, 1872, he surprised and delighted his friends by his rendition of the part of the "Duke of Venice" in the trial scene of the "Merchant of Venice."

Mr. Jackman was always to be counted upon to further every scheme for the good of any community in which he lived, and particularly in Bloomington, where he was ever a participant in any undertaking which advanced the welfare of his chosen home.

At a gathering May 17, 1870, to honor Dr. Henry Conkling, for his work in securing the I., B. & W. R. R., Mr. Jackman said: "I came here about six years ago and I have been for that six years exceedingly busy in attending to my own affairs, and yet I hope that there has been nothing in my conduct for all that time that shall call for any censure from the good people of Bloomington. When the invitation to come here was first extended me, I took a map of Illinois and examined the location of the road to which I was invited to come, and found it was located quite centrally in the state and that Bloomington, where I was to locate was near the central portion of the state. I said to myself, 'That will do, the location must be good.' so on this conclusion I acted and here I am among the good citizens of Bloomington to strike hands with them in any good cause whatever that shall enhance the prosperity of this good city, and accord honor to its generous people."

He was one of the directors of the Bloomington Board of Trade, an organization formed in 1870 to look after the interests of the city, especially the erection of water-works, and with other members of the board spent some time in making tests of the Chicago & Alton well, for the purpose of discovering the feasibility of a similar well for the city. In the Bloomington directory for 1872-73 is a list of the officers of this organization and a statement of its objects.

He was especially interested in the library, the public schools and all educational and philanthropic institutions—serving on the Bloomington Board of Education during the years 1869-73; being its president during the latter year. He was the soul of honor; everyone said of him: "He was an honest man." In a letter to his wife he once said: "Better be honestly poor and carry a good conscience than to take any dishonest means for a living. I hope my course through life will always be an honest and honorable one, though wealth may never light on my shoulders. I am willing to work hard and fare hard which I sometimes do, but hope that nothing will tempt me to swerve from the path of honesty. If I maintain my integrity, it matters little what the rest may be, as my conscience will be at rest."

This expression may be called the keynote of his character, and throughout a long and useful career he lived up to the principles here expressed and though he did not attain great wealth, nevertheless he accumulated a competence and in the securing of this no blot rests upon his name. He was a man of strong religious convictions, and while his health permitted, an attendant on the services of the Presbyterian church, always contributing liberally to its support and in other ways showing his interest in its welfare.

He was greatly impressed by Tennyson's swan-song, "Crossing the Bar," and after it appeared often referred to it as so beautifully expressing his own feelings as life drew to a close. In the words of Dr. Edwards, who officiated at Mr. Jackman's funeral: "Thank God for such a man."

His life was well lived, its end was

calm and courageous, and his memory is cherished by all who knew him.

Sarah F. Jackman.

That there is nothing more beautiful than old age when combined with an interest in modern events and people was most charmingly exemplified in the life of the late Mrs. Sarah F. Jackman, widow of John A. Jackman, who until her death at the ripe age of eighty-four years continued to take active interest in all the affairs of life, at home and abroad.

Sarah Farnum Sargent was the descendant of a line of men of strong character and sturdy independence, many of whom were among the earliest settlers of Massachusetts colony and the New Hampshire grants. She was born in Boscawen, New Hampshire, December 18, 1816, and grew up to young womanhood under the influence of the schools and church of this little town. Life in those early days in that section of New England was very primitive and the conveniences few. In speaking of her youth Mrs. Jackman once said, "I remember when matches were an unknown quantity of civilization, and have known what it was to go to borrow fire at a neighbor's when negligence had deprived us of a bed of coals, going to a near-by house with a skillet and returning with it filled with coals. I also remember well my father striking fire with gun, flint and tow."

Her accounts of her early life in the town of her birth were very entertaining and were always listened to with interest by her children and grandchildren. The games and sports of those days, the huskings, appleparings, sleigh rides, quilting bees and all other good times in which the young folks of the locality took part, were vividly pictured by her for the young folks of her family.

The quaint customs of the times in rural New England made a strong impression on the mind of Young America of a later day. The beginning of the Sabbath at sun-down on Saturday evening and the reverence shown the "minister" by the young people were especial features of this early time. When "Father Price" as she was wont in the language of her childhood to speak of this reverend man, passed by, the children were expected to line up by the road-side, the girls courtesying and the boys bowing in their best manner. This reverence for sacred things was a part of her nature through life and indeed her older children remember well when on Saturday night in her home all playthings unsuitable to the day were carefully put away until Monday morning.

When but nine years of age she was deprived of a father's care through an accident at a barn-raising —and upon the mother devolved the nurture and raising of five children, the oldest being the subject of this sketch. Rebecca Farnum Sargent, the mother, was a woman of remarkable strength of character and foresight. In opposition to the advice of friends and relatives, and counter to the customs and prejudices of the time, she resolved to carry on her little farm and keep her children with her instead of breaking up her home and scattering its inmates among their kin. To this end she took out papers of administration, walking to Concord, ten miles distant, and back in order to do so, was appointed guardian of her children, and succeeded in her undertaking in a wonderful manner, living to see them all prosperous and some of them wealthy before her death, at the age of eighty-seven.

Under these conditions Sarah Sargent grew up to young womanhood, attending school in Boscawen and at the neighboring Salisbury Academy; fitting herself for a teacher, which profession she followed for several years in the towns of Boscawen and Warner, New Hampshire, at a salary of twelve dollars a month, which was considered quite princely in those days: boarding around among the families of her pupils. Mrs. Jackman said once of this period of her life: "Teachers usually boarded 'round with the parents of the pupils and were not only required to teach the children but to give advice and assistance in general to the family. Lady teachers were expected to design bonnets and gowns for the feminine portion of the family, and even to assist in their making."

The little school-house in which she first taught still stands on Corser Hill, West Boscawen, now Webster, N. H. Here some years later Col. Francis W. Parker began that career which put him in the front rank as an educator. He, like Miss Sargent, boarded around, receiving as a salary, fifteen dollars a month. The text books they used, were the catechism

as found in the New England Primer; the Bible; Webster's spelling book; Morse's geography; The English reader, or; The Columbian Orator; Lindley Murray's grammar; with Thompson's "Seasons," Young's "Night-thoughts," and Milton's "Paradise Lost" as "parsing books." In additon the pupils did "sums" from Smith's written arithmetic and Emerson's third part. Colburn's mental arithmetic, which was introduced into the schools in 1830, produced great excitement, the parents opposing it on the grounds that it would confuse the minds of the children and lead to insanity.

Our fathers of Puritan ancestry believed in the New England Primer, and in the Bible as not only authority for the fundamental truths of religion, but also as the standard for instruction in literature, history and morals. Through its use they became acquainted with the best forms of composition. This familiar use of the scriptures and also of selections from the best English poets of the eighteenth century, developed that taste for literature and facility of expression which were very noticeable in everything which Mrs. Jackman wrote, and in her conversation.

Anxious for a more liberal education, Miss Sargent entered a high school kept by Benjamin Foster at Lowell, Massachusetts, where she remained as pupil and later as assistant teacher for some time. Lowell was at that time prominent in educational matters and many of New England's best known educators and literary lights were to be met there; the opportunities for culture in the way of lectures, circulating libraries and lyceums were many and of these she eagerly availed herself. Her letters written at this time are a reflection of the literary life and thought of the first half of the nineteenth century, and are models of faultless expression and poetic fancy.

She said in a published interview a few years ago: "Letter writing was an art in those days. Because of the expense connected with it, trivial lines were not confided to the mails. Letters were then to a great extent models of polite literature. The cost depended on the distance sent, the sender usually prepaying the postage. I think I never paid over twelve and one-half cents for a letter."

"At this period Lucy Larcom and her wonderful coterie of mill-girls drawn from the best and most cultivated families of New England, were conducting the Lowell "Offering," the first magazine in the United States to be conducted by women. To this Miss Sargent contributed over the signature, S. F. S. In one of her letters she says: 'I have lately given my name to a Merrimack Improvement Society which I suppose will demand an additional piece occasionally for the magazine which is supported from its productions'."

The "Offering" with a subscription list of four thousand, was published from 1841-1849, and was in every respect on a level with the best magazines of the day. The work attracted no little attention on the other side of the Atlantic. A volume containing selections from its articles, was published in London in 1849, in one of the several series issued as popular libraries. At a much later period in a course on English literature in Paris, one entire lecture was given on the history and literary merits of the Lowell "Offering." When Charles Dickens visited Lowell in 1842 he spoke in high praise of its quality. Lucy Larcom says: "Most of the contributions were probably written by way of recreation." As an outgrowth of these mill-girls' life it was "its own excuse for being" and its name "The Offering" indicates what it was to its writers—a handful of flowers tended during moments of leisure, and gathered and given for the simple pleasure of giving. It was discontinued for want of pecuniary support; but its five years of life were long enough to remind the world that working and thinking may and do go together.

After completing her school work in Lowell she went to Quincy, Mass., where she taught until her marriage, on November 22, 1843, to John A. Jackman, at West Newton, Massachusetts, where they made their home for some years. During her residence in Quincy and for some time after her marriage she made frequent contributions of poems to the Boston and Quincy papers; especially the Boston "Olive Branch." Such of these bits of verse as have been preserved display much promise of literary prominence, but as a little family grew up about her she felt that her life work was to develop their minds and characters, and she gave up her ambition to become a writer and devoted her time and talents to the rearing of her children and lived only in and for her husband and them; her

pride and pleasure being only to be their loved and loving wife and mother.

During the time of her residence in West Newton she became acquainted with many of the leading early educators of Massachusetts, notably Horace Mann and Miss Eilzabeth Peabody, and from them and others derived many ideas which she put in practice in the education of her own children. She imbibed also, much of the literary vivacity of Boston in the first half of the nineteenth century and up to extreme old age she retained a mental acumen which made her a delightful companion and pleasing conversationalist on every matter of past or present concern.

In the fall of 1852 Mr. Jackman went to Norwalk, Ohio, as superintendent of machinery of the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad, and in the spring Mrs. Jackman and three children followed him. In those early days of railroading, it was a great undertaking to travel from Boston to New York, and it is small wonder that the journey to far-off Ohio seemed most formidable, and that she shrunk from it and felt that she was leaving friends and kindred for an unknown country and untried experiences. Her ideas of the far west were that a log cabin would be her home and Indians her near neighbors, and that everything would be rough and crude; but she was pleasantly surprised to find it quite the reverse.

In 1853 railroad traveling was a much more complicated and tiresome affair than in our day of Pullman palace cars and rapid transit, and Mrs. Jackman's trip from Boston to Norwalk was a weary journey. From Boston to Albany was a continuous trip, consuming about ten hours. At Albany a change was made, crossing the Hudson by ferry-boat, stopping over night at a hotel, and resuming the journey in the morning; going as far as Buffalo where another change was made, and it was considered a great piece of good-luck to make the western connection promptly—otherwise there was a tedious wait of some hours. From Buffalo there was a short run to the station on the line between New York and Pennsylvania, called State Line, where on account of a difference in gauge a change of cars was made. On this broader gauge it was twenty miles to Erie, Pa., where another change was made to the Ohio gauge. This train ran to Cleveland, where a scow carrying at most a dozen passengers and sculled by a weather-beaten mariner was used as a ferry to transfer persons across the river to the Toledo depot. If the eastern train was crowded or a few hours late, haste was needed to secure passage on the first trip of the scow, for the Toledo train started on schedule time, waiting for neither train nor boat. From Cleveland to Norwalk, the last stage of the journey, consumed only a few hours—but to travelers tired from two days and nights of travel it seemed a long and weary trip. There were no sleeping-cars; pepole traveling must carry such conveniences as would enable them to pass the night in comfort in the ordinary cars, which were not at all to be compared with the poorest ones of today.

In Norwalk, after a short time, a home was purchased and the family became identified with all that was good and helpful. Lasting friendships were formed, Mrs. Jackman became active in the social and literary life of the town, and the years passed here were ever after looked back upon with fond remembrance.

After a residence of six years in Ohio, Mr. Jackman having again accepted a position with the Boston and Worcester railroad, she and her family turned their faces eastward, regretfully, for she says "Dear as Boston was as a home, I felt on our return there that we had taken a step backwards, so much more enterprise was there in the west." When, therefore, in May, 1864, Mr. Jackman decided to come still farther west, to Bloomington, Ill., Mrs. Jackman followed him in November of the same year, with totally different feelings from those with which in 1853 she undertook the journey to Ohio.

Her individual history was closely interwoven with many years of Bloomington's growth, and her breadth of mind, amiability of disposition and nobility of soul made her one of the most beloved and admired citizens of the community. The following "Tribute to a noble woman" is copied from the pages of the Bloomington Pantagraph in January, 1901, a short time after her death:

"Editor Pantagraph:—

"Reading a notice of the death of Mrs. J. A. Jackman in a late paper recalls many incidents that occurred during the early years of her life in Bloomington. She was one of the promoters and a charter member of

the Bloomington Benevolent Society that was organized soon after the close of the Civil war. Having been closely connected with her in this work, I desire to add something to the tribute paid to her worth in your paper.

"The poor never had a better friend. Although her home was not in the fifth ward, the poor families that lived on the "forty acres" knew the pathway that led to her door, and they never went away empty-handed. She befriended the outcast, visited the sick and comforted the dying. Socially she was a favorite with all; always ready to say a helpful word, her judgment and counsel was sought in the solution of difficult problems.

"It was Mrs. Jackman who sent a written request to the committee who were preparing a program for Decoration Day, (the second year that day was observed by the city) to have a place set apart in the cemetery to be decorated in "Memory of our unknown dead." This was done, Bloomington thus being the first city to establish that which in a few years became a permanent custom all over our nation. When the proceedings of that committee meeting were made public, Mrs. Jackman was not given the credit she deserved, and when some of her friends spoke of the omission and wished to have it made right, she objected, saying: "Never mind, it makes no difference so long as the request was granted." Her life was a benediction.

Cordially yours,
(Signed.) M. P. HOOVER."
Bennett, Neb., January 7, 1901.

This tribute from one who knew her in her prime and recognized her worth was not only very gratifying to her friends but valuable as giving testimony to her work in the community.

Always interested in books and literary pursuits, she soon after taking up her residence in Bloomington, became interested in the library, and upon the re-organization of the Library Association in 1867, she was made one of the Board of Directors, serving continuously until 1878, being from 1870, vice-president of the association. With her usual lavish generosity, she spent time, strength and money freely in its service, and throughout the remainder of her life no object was dearer to her than the library.

For several years, during the time of struggle, she supplied the reading tables with periodicals at her own expense, and her gifts of books were not few. As has already been said, she was a charter member of the Benevolent Association, and took an active part in its workings, being at one time treasurer, and ever holding herself in readiness to answer any call for help or to fill any place which needed her aid.

Many days did she spend in visiting the poor of the city, and after her death, those whom she had aided spoke of her kind deeds and words of sympathy with tearful eyes.

When the Woman's Educational Association in connection with the Wesleyan University was organized, Mrs. Jackman was one of the charter members and a director of the society. After the purchase of Major's college by this association and the re-opening of it under the name of "Henrietta Hall," as a boarding place for young women attending the Wesleyan, Mrs. Jackman took an active part in the management, aiding by counsel and gifts in the furnishing and other preparations, personally overseeing much of the work done.

For some time she was corresponding secretary for the association, and in fulfilling the duties of this post, she endeared herself to many young women by her wise advice and kindly counsel. She always was a sympathetic listener and able helper to both matron and boarder at the "Hall," while it was carried on, and none regretted more than she the necessity which compelled its closing and sale.

Mrs. Jackman possessed artistic ability of no mean order and left to her children and grandchildren souvenirs of her own handiwork on canvas and on china, in which they take pardonable pride. After family cares had lessened and she had more leisure, she decided to take lessons in oil painting, securing as a teacher Albert Jenks, of Chicago, a noted portrait painter. After months of work, her first canvases, the finished portraits of two grandchildren, with several other studies, were lost in the great Chicago fire of 1871, which destroyed the studio in which she had painted and from which she had not removed them—so of this period of her work, but little was left. Preferring landscapes to portraits, she studied under P. Fishe Reed, Henry Elkins and Mr. Kenney, all artists of

note, and many fine pictures grace the walls of her home; and delight the eyes of children and friends. A picture painted for a granddaughter only six weeks before her death shows that her hand had not lost its cunning even in old age.

Perhaps the art in which she excelled was china painting. Of this, her family have many specimens, of which they are justly proud; one set of plates especially, whose designs were copied from flowers grown in her own garden, is most artistically done.

In horticulture and gardening Mrs. Jackman was most successful, and her garden was for many years her pride and joy. She learned from professional horticulturists the proper treatment of the grape-vine, and the first pleasant spring days found her out with pruning knife, caring for her grape-arbor, until the infirmities of age made such exposure dangerous to health and life.

She was possessed of an unusual aptitude for business affairs, especially in a woman who had lived the sheltered life which had been her lot; and her management greatly contributed to the comfort and ease of the later years of her husband and herself; and enabled them to leave a competence to the children whom they loved, and for whom both had made many sacrifices. Her love for husband, children and friends though quietly expressed was intense, and no task was too great when they needed her care, and she often sacrificed her own comfort for theirs and frequently denied herself to secure for them some coveted pleasure or desired object. Her last thought was for the one who was caring for her and who showed symptoms of illness; her last words were of sympathy and caution to him to care for himself.

After the death of husband and son in 1896, Mrs. Jackman's health, heretofore vigorous, failed perceptibly, and one by one she dropped the various occupations in which she had delighted; excepting the oversight of her family affairs and housekeeping, which she maintained to the end; looking after all details and expenditures in the business way which was a prominent characteristic of her nature, even when confined to her room and unable to care for herself.

Just after midnight on December 17, 1900, she passed from earthly scenes after an illness of several weeks' duration, throughout which, though suffering much, she retained her clearness of mind, and her bright conversation, patience and love and care for all about her, made her sick-room the "Mecca" of the entire household. Two days later, in hope of a glorious reunion some day, her children and friends consigned all that was mortal of the loved one to her final resting place beside her husband in Evergreen cemetery.

For long years she had been a member of the Second Presbyterian church, and one of its most active supporters and devout attendants until her strength failed, and even in her feeble state, she delighted in the services, and was often in her place in church when she seemed scarcely able to attend. The last words were spoken from the pulpit of that church over the casket containing her form.

Rev. Henry K. Denlinger, her pastor, used as his theme "Death and Gain," and took occasion to pay a touching tribute to the noble life she had lived as the only true preparation for death. Her life was full of virtue and to those who knew her best her memory will be the sweetest.

In accordance with her oft-expressed wish, the home she loved and which she had made beautiful with the work of her hands—was kept as she left it, and there her children, Dr. Frederick O. Jackman, Mrs. Horace W. Soper, Mrs. Caroline F. Kimball and one granddaughter, Mary L. Kimball, make their home amid the hallowed associations of her life.

Another son, Frank S. Jackman, resides in Pittsburg, Pa. Three granddaughters, Mrs. J. L. Hasbrouck, Mrs. William C. Windle and Mrs. Franklin I. Miller and a grandson, George Sears Jackman, with six great-grandchildren comprise the rest of her immediate family. To these her life was a beautiful example of energetic overcoming of obstacles; of quiet perseverance in the path of duty, and of an abounding faith and trust in the goodness and ever-present help of God. A beautiful life well lived — surely, "Her works do follow her."

Ira Merchant.

Ira Merchant does not rank with the snow-birds of Bloomington; is not even an old settler but has made the city his home for thirty-five years; long enough to ante date the commencement of the improvements

that have made Bloomington the equal of any of the inland cities of the west. With the municipal improvements from their inception in 1869 until 1884 he was engaged in planning and supervising the construction of pavements, sewers and water supply. Up to 1869, in rainy weather Bloomington was emphatically a mud town; but the mud embargo of 1869 which prohibited for three weeks the use of teams and miscellaneous hauling, made it necessary to get a solid street from the two railroad depots then in the city to the court house square, the central business portion of the city. Mr. Merchant was born in Morris county, New Jersey, near Morristown in 1827. Until he was seventeen years of age he assisted in the work on the home farm. His education was in select schools in Newark, New Jersey. He left home in November, 1854, and secured a position as rodman on a survey being made for the North Missouri railway (now Wabash) from St. Louis northwesterly to Macon City. After completion of surveys, worked on construction in Boone and Audrain counties, until for lack of funds the work ceased early in 1856. That summer worked for his uncle, Ahaz Merchant, who was city engineer of Cleveland, Ohio. Later secured a position with an engineering corps with headquarters in Wapello, Iowa. The work terminated for lack of funds in December, 1856, but the engineer in charge and his party were transferred to White Hall, Illinois, and completed a survey from that point to Rock Island. In April, 1857, was appointed assistant engineer and placed in charge of construction from White Hall to Beardstown, fifty miles. Later, when the work was being rushed, two divisions were formed and he was assigned to that portion from the north line of Scott county to Beardstown. In the summer of 1858 was assigned by the chief engineer to make preliminary surveys and location of the road from White Hall to the Chicago & Alton road at Brighton and after the completion of surveys took charge of the construction. The hard times and business depression preceding the war of the rebellion closed the work of construction and for several months he was engaged in taking final estimates for contractors from Brighton to Macomb, McDonough county, and was the last civil engineer to work on the line previous to the breaking out of the war. In August, 1861, enlisted at Winchester, Scott county, in a company that became C of the 28th Illinois Infantry—camped at Fort Holt, Ky., until the movement of troops up the Tennessee river, which resulted in the battles of Forts Henry and Donaldson and Pittsburg Landing. Was commissioned by Governor Yates, second lieutenant to take rank from November 20, 1861. November 19, 1862, commissioned first lieutenant on recommendation of his colonel and the commission was endorsed. Promoted for meritorious services at Fort Donaldson and Pittsburg Landing. Wounded at Holly Springs, Miss., in July, 1862. The injury was considered light but erysipelas setting in he was in danger of losing his arm. Was absent from his command until September, when he rejoined at Memphis, Tenn. Was appointed quartermaster 3rd Brigade 4th Division 16th Army Corps, and was in the saddle constantly during Grant's movement south into Mississippi to Water Valley. The capture of Holly Springs by Van Dorn obliged Grant to retrograde and take up a position along the line of the Memphis and Charleston railroad, preparatory to moving on Vicksburg via Mississippi river. The wounded arm caused a great deal of suffering and upon the advice of Dr. West, regimental surgeon, who said his continued service would lead to the loss of his arm, he resigned at Memphis, Tenn., in 1863. Returning to Illinois was elected surveyor of Sangamon county, serving two years. He then engaged in the survey of the Sullivant lands in Ford county, and had charge of the field party making surveys for the Peoria and Rock Island railway and came to Bloomington upon the completion of that work.

The macadam pavements from the I. C. depot on Grove and Main and from the C. & A. on Chestnut and Center to the public square were the start of Bloomington's municipal improvements, these being constructed in 1869. In 1870 the north side of the square was paved with Nicholson; and wood pavement together with rubble stone blocks was extended through the business portion of the city. In 1877 a block, the west side of the square was paved with vitrified brick, being the first block of brick pavement laid in the United States. The test of this pavement was so satisfactory that the city used brick from that time exclusively for

street pavements. It is safe to say that in the cities of from five to one hundred thousand population there are more square yards of brick pavement than all others combined. The building of sewers was commenced in 1872. The city being traversed by two waterways known as the north and south sloughs which had become deep and dangerous washouts by reason of the large volume of water passing through these natural outlets it became necessary to build large storm sewers along their courses before the business and residence portions could have the benefit of lateral sewers. Previous to 1884 these main sewers were completed together with a large number of laterals placing the sewerage problem in such shape that it could be extended from year to year as the needs of the city demanded. In 1874 the city well was dug, and what proved a satisfactory supply of water to warrant the construction of water-works determined. The well was completed, a pumping station erected near it, and a standpipe eight feet in diameter and two hundred feet high erected on the summit of the ridge south of the pumping works. The stand pipe has furnished the best of equalized water pressure, both for fire and domestic purposes. The mains were extended to meet the needs of the city and the wishes of the residents.

Plans for all of these improvements, lists of property owners and plats of property specially assessed for the construction were prepared by Mr. Merchant and a record of each step taken to construct or extend any and all of these improvements was kept in the engineer's office in forms and books originated by him.

Since retirement from the city engineer's office he has been employed as business agent for the excutors of the estate of David Davis and later in the same capacity by Mrs. Sarah Davis Swayne.

Mr. Merchant died at Bloomington November 27, 1902.

Mrs. Mary Arenz Merchant.

Mrs. Mary Arenz Merchant is the fourth of ten children born to Francis and Louisa Arenz, of Arenzville, Cass county, Illinois. The date of her birth was February 28, 1841. She was educated at the Methodist Female College at Jacksonville, Ill., and was married to Ira Merchant, February 14, 1860. The father was a prominent business man of Cass county, interested in the politics of the 40s and 50s and was a friend and associate of Lincoln, Yates, Baker, McClernand, Palmer and other noted leaders in political life at that time. One child, a daughter, Ella, was born, educated in Bloomington, and in 1882 was married to C. H. McWhorter and now resides in Minneapolis, Minn.

The first board of trustees appointed to take charge of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home selected Mrs. Merchant to act as superintendent of the first temporary home to be opened which was located in Bloomington for the accommodation of children—while the permanent home was being constructed—and she came from Springfield and received the first children August 5, 1867, in a house, 1207 North Main street, opposite the residence of the late J. T. Snell.

This house was soon filled to overflowing and fifty-four children were housed and cared for there until the permanent home was opened in June, 1869. At one time there were sixty-three children, but it became necessary to open another temporary home at the corner of North (now Monroe) and Prairie streets where forty children were cared for. Mrs. Merchant had no precedents to follow. She was obliged to originate methods in organization, and was ably assisted by Mr. Jesse A. Willson, the resident trustee, and Dr. N. B. Cole, who had been appointed the physician.

At one time there were fourteen children sick with measles and two with scarlet fever, and they had to be cared for and the other children protected in a house with insufficient room and as judged by later sanative ideas, was without any conveniences when all the children were well.

Take a house built for the accommodation of an ordinary family; with four rooms and a kitchen below stairs and four rooms above, with a narrow hall on each floor; place fifty-four children and the necessary help to care for them, and it would be a vexing problem for a superintendent if all were in perfect health; add sickness and one can imagine the responsibility; but all were brought safely through without the loss of a child, and turned over to the permanent home a healthy, well trained and polite body—creditable wards of the state. Mrs. Merchant was untiring in her labors and personally saw that her instructions were carried out as to the children's diet and clothing

and the trustees in providing for the opening of other temporary homes followed her ideas as to their government. She individually made all purchases of supplies and materials used, kept her accounts and made reports to the trustees and they considered her services so satisfactory that she was tendered by the trustees unanimously the position of superintendent of the permanent home which she was obliged to decline on account of the precarious health of her daughter.

Mrs. Merchant has been a resident of Bloomington for thirty-five years. She united with the Second Presbyterian church on coming here, and is today a working member of that congregation.

Dr. Frank J. Mittan.

Dr. Frank J. Mittan, the son of George H. and Eliza M. Mittan, was born on a farm at DeWitt, DeWitt county, Illinois, April 13, 1865. In 1875 moved to Farmer City and the next year to Bellflower in McLean county, where he lived until 1891, when he removed to Colfax, Illinois, where he has since resided. He was educated in the public schools of DeWitt, Farmer City and Bellflower and for four years was a very successful teacher in the public schools of McLean county.

He began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Godfrey at Bellflower in 1883, while still teaching. In 1887 he entered the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, and graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1891, since which time he has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession there, but has recently sold out his office and business and after some special work in New York City he will probably remove to California.

He was married to Emma L. Butcher, of Bellflower, November 24, 1886. Has served on the school board of Colfax almost all the time of his residence, five years as president of the board. Served one year as president of the town board and been a member of the village board of health for eight years.

Dr. Mittan is a member of the McLean County Medical Society, also of the State Society and American Medical Association.

Served as worshipful master of Colfax Lodge No. 799, A. F. & A. M. for three years and is a member of Bloomington Chapter, R. A. M., and of Bloomington Council, R & S. M., and of DeMolay Commandery.

Dr. Mittan is a Republican in politics and has taken an active part in the political affairs of the eastern part of the county. The Colfax Leader well says, "His place as a citizen, neighbor and representative of the medical profession is in the front rank and his efforts in behalf of the community and his patients make him universally popular."

Francis M. Moats.

Francis M. Moats is a son of Henry and Elsie (Van Buskirk) Moats and was born in Money Creek township in this county, February 20, 1840, and has resided continuously since within a mile of his birthplace—which cabin is further famous as the birthplace, many years earlier, of Peter Guthrie, of Bloomington, Ill. He was married October 27, 1858, to Miss Rebecca Arbuckle, daughter of David and Abigail Arbuckle. She was born in Marion county, Ohio, May 24, 1838, and came to this county with her parents while a child.

Mr. Moats may justly be called an "early settler" and has literally "grown up with the country." He was for many years widely known as a stock shipper, but has always resided on his farm, although of late years he has been engaged in the grain shipping business in addition to his farming interests.

Henry Moats.

Henry Moats was born November 26, 1810, in Licking county, Ohio, and came to this county with his parents when he was nineteen years old, and settled in Money Creek township, where he resided continuously till his death, which occurred September 13, 1890. He was married November 2, 1837, to Miss Elsie Van Buskirk, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, July 26, 1816, and came to this county with her parents in 1829. Her death occurred in October, 1890, just six weeks after that of her husband. To this union there were born four children, two of whom died in infancy. The surviving children are a daughter, Mrs. Mary J. Rankin, who now resides in Money Creek township; and a son, Francis M. Moats, also living in Money Creek township. "Uncle" Henry Moats, as he was familiarly called, was widely known and

highly respected and esteemed by all for his sturdy integrity as well as for his kind and generous disposition. His portrait, which accompanies this sketch, will bring back pleasant memories to the minds of many yet living.

Henry McCormick.

Professor Henry McCormick was born in Ireland in 1837 and came to the United States at the age of 16. He is an alumnus of the Illinos State Normal University, of which institution he is vice-president and in which he has taught since 1869.

Professor McCormick obtained his degrees of M. A. and Ph. D. from the Illinois Wesleyan University by examination, having been among the first to take the non-resident course; and that institution has recently honored him with the degree of LL. D.

He is the author of two books on geography (of which subject he was teacher for many years) "Practical Work in Geography" and "Suggestions on Teaching Geography," and is in demand as a lecturer and as institute instructor.

Professor McCormick was married in 1859 to Miss Numantia B. Kinyon of Sharon, Wis., and is the father of five children, viz: Mrs. O. R. Trowbridge of Normal, Dr. N. K. McCormick of Normal, Prof. E. B. McCormick of the College of Agriculture, Manhattan, Kas., Dr. F. C. McCormick of Normal, Mr. H. G. McCormick, student at Ann Arbor, Mich.

Benjamin Ogden.

Mr. Ogden was born at "Pickaway Plains" in Ohio February 7, 1803. He removed from Fayette county, Ohio, to Illinois in the fall of 1830, locating in what is now Money Creek township in this county. He was married at Yankeetown, Fayette county, Ohio, in 1824, to Miss Sarah Stretch, a daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Van Dolah) Stretch, who was born at Redstone, Pennsylvania, July 18, 1806. They were the parents of ten children, seven of whom are dead, and most of them dying in childhood, although Mrs. Maria McAfferty, widow of Dr. Ethan McAfferty, died in June, 1895, and Mrs. Amanda McAfferty, widow of J. McAfferty, died in March, 1901. Benjamin Ogden died September 26, 1873, and his wife died October 31, 1882, and all of the deceased are buried in Pennell graveyard, in Money Creek township, this county. The surviving children are Jesse Ogden, aged 68, now residing in the village of Towanda, Ill., and Mrs. Elizabeth Stover, and Mrs. Margaret Haworth.

John Lewis Orendorff.

John Lewis Orendorff, son of William and Lavina Sayles Orendorff, was born at Blooming Grove, January 20, 1825, the first white male child born within the present limits of McLean county. His first trip from home, except going to mill, was in 1833 to Sangamon county. The first stop was at Grandfather Orendorff's place on Sugar Creek, eight miles northeast of where Lincoln now is. When he crossed Salt Creek deer were feeding in the bottom like so many cattle. They didn't seem disturbed by seeing him with the team and covered wagon. Grandfather Sayles, whom he visited, lived seven miles this side of Springfield, right on the present track of the Chicago & Alton railroad in a double log cabin, he living in one room and an aunt, Sarah Sayles, in the other. It was Christmas time, and his brother Oliver, his cousin, James Sayles and himself went fishing down on the Sangamon river, a mile and a half away. The river was frozen over, the ice clear, slick and smooth. They would walk on the ice until they could see a fish, then a blow with an ax over him, then they would cut a hole and pull the fish out. That was not all the fun they had. They yoked up a couple of calves and tied their tails together and turned them in a stump lot. They ran astride a stump and tore the brush off one of their tails. His cousin was afraid his grandfather would punish him. On this trip he first saw a tame turkey. Wild turkeys were very common then.

His next trip was in 1834, moving a family to Pleasant Grove, eight miles this side of Pekin, James and Benjamin Kimler, with a four-horse team, and his brother James with another four-horse team, and he, horseback, to drive the cows. After they crossed the Mackinaw river Isaac Kimler found a bee tree which they cut down and got some honey but not much. The family stopped at William Ramsey's farm. The next day they went up the river bluffs not far from Peoria, drove down a hollow where they found coal cropping out. The men dug quite a load for each team. On the way back they had to hunt a ferry to cross the

Mackinaw, which was booming from recent rains. It took several trips to get them across. This coal was used by John Kimler for blacksmith purposes and was, he thinks, the first coal used in this county. Mr. Orendorff's father and James Allin agreed that whoever laid out the town for the county seat of McLean county should give the other forty acres of timber. Allin got the town and gave Mr. Orendorff's father forty acres, near the city cemetery which his father sold to Kimler, the blacksmith.

In 1834 he and his brother James, and a few others went to Chicago, driving ox teams. They had three wagons loaded with shelled corn, two teams of four oxen each and a four-horse team. At Mackinaw one of the wagons broke down and they camped there until Jacob Spawr, now living, a hundred years old, repaired it. The next camping was at Eppard's Point, and the next at Wolff's Grove. At Eppard's Point they turned the teams out and the oxen got the milk sick but it did not develop until they started back, when one of them wandered off and they never found it. They sold their corn for about fifty cents a bushel. The return loads were principally salt. They were gone three weeks. At Chicago they stopped with Rev. William See, the pioneer Methodist minister at Blooming Grove. He was then keeping a boarding house or hotel on the west bank of the Chicago river. They took their own provisions along with them. At night they turned the cattle out to graze. There was nothing at Pontiac then but a single log cabin. They got their meals there coming back. The charge was twelve and one-half cents a meal. At Chicago and also at Kankakee they met Indians. The lake was the first large body of water he had ever seen. It made a great impression on him.

Susan R. Hoover was the wife of John Lewis Orendorff, daughter of Joel and Anna Hoover, who moved from Hagerstown, Md., about 1805, to Kentucky, but not liking to live in a slave state they moved to Clermount county, Ohio. She was married to John Lewis Orendorff June 11, 1857. They have had eight children, including three pairs of twins. Mary, who died at the age of fourteen in 1876; William A., who married Laura B. Cartmel and lives near the old home; they have two children, Lloyd and Irene. Ollie H., who married Adda L. Hoffman, they have one daughter, Edna F., they live on the old home place. Ernest, the twin brother of William H., died when eight months old. George Lewis, the twin brother of Oliver, died when two years old. Eddie and Ella, twins. Eddie married Mary E. Lash; they have two sons, one died in infancy, the other, Ray, lives in Portland, O., with his mother. Eddie died in 1885. Ella married George W. Hoffman, who lives near Farmer City. They have nine children, six girls and three boys, Jesse L. married Hattie V. Love in Boone county, Ohio, where he now lives.

Thomas Orendorff.

Thomas Orendorff was born at Spartensburg, S. C., August 14, 1800. When seven years old he commenced with his father's family their migrations, first to North Carolina, then to Georgia, from there to Tennessee, thence to Kentucky, thence to the little Wabash in Illinois, thence to St. Clair county, then to Sangamon county. Still unsatisfied, in the spring of 1823, William and Thomas Orendorff, saddled their horses and started north. At Blooming Grove, where Dawson and Hendrix had preceded them, they found the garden spot of the world and here staid their wanderings, and built their cabins in what has ever since been known as the Orendorff neighborhood and where their descendants still live; by their upright lives and simple virtues, keeping bright and untarnished the family name.

At that time the Indians still occupied this county, with settlements at Pleasant Hill and Old Town, and scattered wigwams in all our groves. Nothwithstanding they had made a treaty relinquishing their rights to this region, they were loath to give it up, and their chief ordered Thomas Orendorff to leave, to go back to the other side of the Sangamon. A warm discussion arose between them, but Mr. Orendorff refused to leave, though advised by the Indian agent to do so in order to save his life. The Indian men considered work fit only for squaws. Occasionally some of them would do a little. One chopped logs for Mr. Orendorff, while the latter split rails, paying the Indian a twist of tobacco for each cut, nine twists in all. He also assisted Mr. Orendorff in putting up a cabin.

In October, 1824, he married Mary Mathilda Walker, daughter of the pioneer William Walker. When Mr. Orendorff came to Blooming Grove it was a part of Fayette county. In 1827 it became a part of the newly created county of Tazewell, which was organized at the cabin of William Orendorff in Blooming Grove, at which time William H. Hodge was elected sheriff and Thomas Orendorff coroner of Tazewell county.

In 1830 the county of McLean was organized. The petition for the new county was taken to the legislature at Vandalia by Thomas Orendorff and James Latta, the latter a Methodist minister, militia colonel, land speculator and all around man, useful in every emergency of pioneer life from a revival to a militia muster. Mr. Orendorff had thirteen children, the two oldest, twins, dying in infancy, eleven grew up to manhood and womanhood: John Berry, David O., Mrs. Mary Saphronia Able, Mrs. Catherine Scott, Mrs. Caroline Baremore, Mrs. Sarah M. Orendorff, Thomas W., Martha M. Luce, Charles, Ben J. and Mrs. Oliver J. Hollis.

Mr. Orendorff was a stalwart man, six foot, four inches high, spare built, athletic, faithful in all relations of life, public and private. He died March 31, 1881, sincerely mourned by all who knew him.

Mary Mathilda Walker-Orendorff.

Mary Mathilda Walker-Orendorff, daughter of William Walker, was born August 16, 1808. She married Thomas Orendorff October 4, 1824, the second white couple married within the present limits of McLean county. In those days marriage licenses could only be obtained by going to Vandalia, the county seat; that involved too much time and money so Mr. Orendorff declared to the world his intention to marry Miss Walker by notices posted up on the trees. When she came here the Indians were quite numerous, and very friendly, the white children playing with the Indian children. Miss Walker learned many Indian words, and learned to count to ten in the Kickapoo language, which she remembered to the day of her death: 1, cota; 2, nitio; 3, naha; 4, nawai; 5, palini; 6, cotosh; 7, mishosh; 8, nosh; 9, paschon; 10, telon.

During the last fifteen years of her life, she was helpless and a great sufferer from paralysis, but she bore her long suffering with Christian fortitude, dying at her old home January 19, 1891.

John Berry Orendorff.

John Berry Orendorff, the son of Thomas Orendorff, was born at Blooming Grove May 3, 1827; married to Nancy Jane McCain, November 18, 1847. Mr. Orendorff has been the vice president of the McLean County Historical Association from its organization. His life spanning almost the entire history of McLean county, has given him unusual opportunities of knowing all pioneer history, and having a strong mind and retentive memory and deeply interested in our local history, has been of great help to the society in its work. A more extended sketch appears in our first volume.

Nancy Jane McCain-Orendorff.

Nancy Jane McCain Orendorff, daughter of James and Jane (Craig) Orendorff, was born in Gray county, Alabama, November 9, 1828. Her grandmother McCain was a sister of President Andrew Johnson, and was also a relative of Andrew Jackson. She came to McLean county in 182[illegible] and was married to John Berry Orendorff November 18, 1847, by Esq. Z. Lawrence. When quite young she joined the Cumberland Presbyterian church. She was educated in the Bloomington schools, having attended at "Not the Candle Factory" on South Main street. Among her teachers were Dr. W. C. Hobbs, James Luce and M. W. Packard. For several years she was a member of the Grange, and took a leading part in the educational, social and religious activities of her neighborhood. "She was a woman of sterling qualities, a loving wife, an affectionate mother, a kind neighbor." She left five surviving children, Albert J., Clara B. Perry, Mary J. Price, Richard R. and Mary Varner.

William Orendorff.

William Orendorff, the subject of this sketch, was born March 26, 1792, in the state of Georgia. The state of Georgia although one of the original states, was then new and sparsely settled. The stories and trials of the Revolutionary war were fresh in the minds of the people. The constitution of the United States had recently been adopted, and George Washington had been inaugurated and was then serving his first term as President. The government under the constitution

was then being inaugurated, and was then an untried problem. All that country west of the Mississippi river was unknown; it was then known as the Great American Desert, and it was eleven years after his birth before the Louisiana purchase was made. The business centers were along the Atlantic coast; there were no steam-boats, no railroads, no telegraphs, no Atlantic cable, no telephones, no farm machinery and the transportation was made by wagons drawn by horses or oxen. The postal system was then just at its beginning and postage was high and newspapers and magazines were practically unknown in the interior of Georgia.

Slavery then existed in Georgia and was almost universally believed by the people to be right. By reason of the unsettled condition of the country, schools were out of the question.

The history of the Orendorff family is traceable back to the early part of the sixteenth century to Christopher Orendorff, an officer of high rank in the German Army. He married the daughter of a German duke. Christopher seems to have been a common name in the family. Christopher Orendorff, the father of William Orendorff, a descendant of the family in Germany, was the first to come to this country. He arrived here before the revolution or about that time, and settled near Hagerstown, Md., and in 1791 he was married to Elizabeth Philips who was a pure American. From Hagerstown, after his marriage, he removed to Georgia, and from Georgia to South Carolina, near Spartanburg, thence to Tennessee, thence to Kentucky, near Lexington, from there to Illinois, to what is now known as St. Clair and afterwards to Sangamon county, and finally to Logan county at a point about eight miles north of where the city of Lincoln now stands. Here he purchased a farm and remained until his death, and was buried at a cemetery about eight miles northeast of Lincoln, and his tomb stone is the only date for record in existence.

This couple raised a very large family, consisting of twelve children, who were born in the different states through which they traveled, and are as follows:

William, born March 26, 1792; Polly, 1794; John, 1796; Charles, 1798; Thomas, 1800; Elizabeth, 1803; Joseph and Benjamin, twins, 1804; Rosanna, 1806; Alfred, 1808; Nancy, 1812; David, 1814.

All of whom grew to manhood and womanhood and all except one were married. To this family all the Orendorff's in America trace their genealogy. This family were remarkable for their intelligence. Each of the twelve children were more than six feet high, except David, the youngest, who was comparatively a small man.

When William was very small his father moved to Spartanburg, South Carolina, and resided in and near Spartanburg until 1807 when he removed west of the Cumberland mountains, to Franklin county, Tennessee. He found the land there was owned by speculators and had been surveyed in large tracts so that a poor man could not purchase them.

In 1811 the family moved to Kentucky, then wild and sparsely settled. After raising one crop in Christian county, Ky., Mr. Orendorff moved to Henderson county, Ky., and settled near the present site of the town of Henderson. In 1816 William visited Illinois and emigrated to this state in 1817. He settled in Clinton county, May 2, 1817, more than one year before Illinois was admitted as a state, and when there were only eight counties in the territory. They remained there one year and then removed to St. Clair county, east of Belleville.

In the spring of 1823 he moved to Blooming Grove, then known as Keg Grove, and for $50 bought a claim about five miles southeast of where Bloomington is now located, and near the point of Blooming Grove where he continued to live the remainder of his life. His brother Thomas, came with him, and purchased a claim, and settled near William.

Mr. Orendorff was a farmer, and cultivated his land, but as there were no shoe-makers, or carpenters, or plow makers in the country, he would make shoes, stock a plow, or make a cradle, for his neighbors, while they would work on his farm in his place.

When he came to Keg Grove there were but few white people within the range of twenty miles of where he lived. This was more than eight years before the location and first sale of lots in the town, now the city of Bloomington. When he moved to this grove, Vandalia was the county seat of the county of Fayette. In 1827 Tazewell county was organized with the county seat at Mackinaw. In-

dians were then roaming over this country. Soon after his arrival here he was ordered away by the old chief of the Kickapoos, who came with Macchina, who was afterwards chief of the Kickapoos, but he refused to go and was not molested.

The Indians in this locality were principally Kickapoos, but later on some Delawares came, but they looked to the Kickapoos for protection. Pottawottamies also passed occassionally. The Delawares were much like the Kickapoos. The Kickapoos had their town at the head of Old Town and on the land that now constitutes one of the farms of Hon. Geo. W. Funk.

Mr. Orendorff was well acquainted with Machina and others of the Indian Tribes. He knew "Moon Shine," an Indian who worked and chopped logs for Thomas Orendorff, a brother of William Orendorff. He encouraged settlement around him, and assisted his neighbors in entering land. He was not disposed to enter and purchase all the land adjoining him.

Mr. Orendorff was a man of fine judgment and very popular. He was conservative and a man of high moral character, but living a pioneer life and had no opportunity to attend school, books were few, and newspapers and magazines were unknown in pioneer life. He dressed nicely and wore on public occasions a nice cloth suit, and a silk hat, as did his brothers.

In 1825 he was nominated by the house of representatives, and confirmed by the senate, as justice of the peace of Fayette county, and was commissioned by Governor Edward Coles on the 6th day of January, 1825. He was the first justice of the peace commissioned in the territory of what is now McLean county. His commission was during good behavior, and reads as follows:

"Know ye that William Orendorff, having been nominated by the house of representatives to the office of the justice of the peace for the county of Fayette and his nomination having been confirmed by the senate, I, Edward Coles, governor of the said state, for and on behalf of the people aforesaid, do appoint him justice of the peace for the said county and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfill the duties of that office according to law. And to have and to hold the said office with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining during good behavior. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the state seal to be affixed this sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States the Forty-ninth."

By the Governor,

EDWARD COLES.

(Seal.) M. Birkbeck,
Secretary of State.

When he received his commission, having had no opportunity for schooling and scarcely being able to read or write, he procured Miss Delilah Mullin, who had recently come from the east, to assist him in learning to read and write and the fundamental rules of arithmetic. Miss Mullin was a young lady about eighteen years of age, and fairly educated before she came west. She could read and write well and had some knowledge of figures, and later on taught the first school in this county. He studied very hard, learning rapidly and by the time the spring work commenced he could read very well, write a fair hand and had some knowledge of figures. This enabled him later on to study without the aid of a teacher, and by the following December he felt himself qualified to act as justice of the peace and thereupon took the oath of office as the first justice of the peace of the territory now composing McLean county. When Tazewell county was cut off from Fayette, the office became elective and he was at the first election held in Tazewell county, chosen justice of the peace of Tazewell county and was commissioned September 29, 1827. This election was held at his home in Blooming Grove. When Mr. Orendorff was appointed and commissioned justice of the peace, with all his industry to qualify him, to properly perform the duties of the office, he was not familiar with the English or American Jurisprudence, nor had he taken lessons on statutory law. He was not familiar and in fact knew nothing about the common law or the statute, or the canons of construction; he had probably never attended a session of court in his life, and it is doubtful if he had ever met a judge or ever been introduced to a lawyer, yet by his practical common sense he administered the office with dignity, honor, and credit to himself. When he was commissioned and up to 1827, this territory became a part of Tazewell

county with the county seat at Mackinaw town, only twenty-five miles distant. During the time that territory formed a part of Fayette county, marriages in this part of the state were accomplished with great difficulty. The people were all very poor, it was over a hundred miles to Vandalia, the county seat; there were no highways then leading there. After the party arrived at Vandalia, the license cost $1.25. But few young men could raise the money, or were able to own a horse to ride to Vandalia.

The young men, in almost every case were compelled to walk to the county seat over a trackless road, wading sloughs and swimming streams. To overcome this difficulty and to enable parties to obtain a license from the county clerk at Vandalia, and to marry parties that desired to be married, Mr. Orendorff decided that he would marry parties on notice. That is, as I understand it, a young man desiring to marry was required to give ten days' notice by posting three notices on the different trees, stating to whom he was to be married, when and where the marriage would take place, and that if any person had any objections to the marriage, they would appear at the time and place of the proposed marriage and make their objections known.

Just how many couples were married by Mr. Orendorff upon notice the writer has been unable to ascertain, but the following couples were married in this way: William C. Cattell and Margaret Ann Ellington; Adam Guthrie and Mahalia Sidewell; William Lindley and Nancy Kelley; Jacob Spawr and Eliza Trimmer.

He returned to the county clerk at Vandalia, certificates of these marriages upon notice; the following is the certificate of the marriage of William Cattell and Margaret Ellington:

"State of Illinois, Fayette county, ss.

"By publication, as the law directs I hereby certify that on the 13th day of April, I joined together in holy state of matrimony William C. Cattell and Margaret Ann Ellington, of lawful age.

"Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of May, 1826.

WILLIAM ORENDORFF, J. P."

Certificates in the same form are on file at Vandalia as to the marriage of Jacob Spawr and Eliza Ann Trimmer, married December 20, 1826. Adam Guthrie and Mahala Sidewell dated in 1829; William Lindley and Nancy Kelley, dated in 1831. These certificates are all in the same form except names and dates. Jacob Spawr named in one of the certificates is still living at Lexington in this county, and is over 100 years old. Mr. John Stubblefield remembers Mr. Cattell and his wife well.

It is believed by the writer that other couples were married upon notice, but the writer was unable to ascertain or find any other certificates on file in the county clerk's office at Vandalia. All marriage license certificates and notices that were not lost or mislaid were in a box. The clerk kindly assisted us, however, until we found all the certificates that were then on file in the office.

When parties were going to have a lawsuit he would set the case in the forenoon, but would not take it up until after dinner. He would give the parties a good dinner, and then induce them to settle.

William Orendorff was married four times, and was the father of fourteen children, four of whom were born after he was sixty-three years of age. He was first married in Kentucky in 1811 to Sarah Nichols, they were married near Nicholsville, Ky. By this marriage they had three children, James K. Orendorff, born December 28, 1812. He was married May 4, 1836, to Miss Lavina Sales. He died January 1, 1875. Elizabeth was born in 1814. William was born in 1816, and died in infancy. Sarah was born August 6, 1820. She married Seth Baker, a son of Dr. Baker, August 20, 1840. She died May 9, 1848, and left one son, Leander Baker, who now resides at Farmer City, Illinois. Seth Baker went west and died several years ago.

William Orendorff's first wife died in 1816. He was married the second time in the year 1819, to Miss Lavina Sales in Tennessee. She was of Welsh descent and a sister of the wife of John Orendorff, of Canton, Illinois. By this marriage there were born four children.

Elizabeth married Caleb Kimler who was a cabinet-maker and lived in this county. He made coffins as a part of his trade, and the seasoned lumber used by him was secured from the lofts of the cabins of the neighbors. She died about 1843, her husband died later on. She and her husband are buried in Downs cemetery in Downs township in this county.

Oliver H. P. Orendorff, born May 16, 1822. April 5, 1847, was married to

Sarah L. S. Hendrix, a daughter of John Hendrix, who was one of the first settlers of this county.

Oliver H. P. Orendorf died October —— ———. His wife is still living near the old homestead.

John Lewis Orendorff, born January 20, 1825, was married June 11, 1857, to Susan R. Hoover; both are still living, and residing on a farm near the old homestead of his father.

Mary Jane married William H. Cheney, November 10, 1842. Mr. Cheney was a well known citizen of this county and served the unexpired term in the state senate of the Honorable Isaac Funk. He was a political factor in this county in the days of the Whig party, he was a Whig and when the Republican party was organized he joined that party and acted with it until his death.

Nancy, born March 27, 1829, was married to George S. Creel, August 19, 1855. They are both dead, leaving no issue.

Mr. Orendorff's second wife was born June 11, 1799, and died November 9, 1831.

William Orendorff was married the third time to Miss Susan Ogden, September 17, 1834. There were two children by this marriage.

Margaret, born October 25, 1835, married to Alexander Hauck on October 12. 1853. After their marriage they moved to Iowa, where Margaret afterwards died. Mr. Hauck is still living in Iowa.

Christopher O. was born January , 1842, and has been married three times. He was married the first time on October 27, 1864, to Sarah F. McClellan. She was born October 11, 1844, and died July 31, 1894.

Christopher was married the second time to Eliza J. Buker, July 23, 1896. She was born July 24, 1860, and died October 13, 1898.

He was again married to Jessie Brennan October 26, 1899. She was born March 13, 1865. He now resides in West township in this county.

Mr. Orendorff was married the fourth time on his sixty-second birthday to Miss Neoma Able on March 26, 1854. By this marriage they had four children.

Francis Emory, born December 25, 1856, married to Flora Houser October 22, 1879.

Clara Emma, born March 27, 1860, married to Horace G. Bullock September 3, 1877.

Oren Ward, born September 20, 1862, married Abbie M. Robinson January 30, 1884.

William, born April 15, 1866, married on the 29th day of June, 1892, to Miss Julia Ricketts. These children all reside in this county.

In 1896 the Orendorff family of the United States held a reunion of the family in the city of Bloomington. A large number of the family were in attendance; the writer was present and met many distinguished men and women from different parts of the country, lawyers, doctors and business men, and the entire family had the general appearance of standing high in their own respective communities.

So far as the writer has been able to ascertain William Orendorff, subject of this sketch, remained at the head of the family in this country from the death of his father until his own death.

Mr. Orendorff was a very liberal minded man in religion until near the close of his life, he was a Universalist and believed in the final salvation of the race. The New Covenant, the great newspaper of the church was his religious paper for many years. Near the close of his life he united with the Methodist church.

He was a moral man and believed that no man should do wrong. He loved his neighbors as himself and believed in that fundamental rule of human conduct, "Do unto others, as you would have others do unto you."

On the 12th day o fMay, 1869, he departed this life at his home on the farm, where he had resided since coming to this country, respected by all who knew him, and was buried at the Blooming Grove cemetery, near where he resided, and on the spot where the first cabin in the county was built.—Thomas F. Tipton.

Isaac Newton Phillips.

Isaac Newton Phillips was born October 24, 1845, on his father's farm near the village of Washington in Tazewell county, Illinois. His father, Alfred Phillips, was one of the pioneers of Tazewell county, having moved to this state from Wayne county, Kentucky, in October 1830. The maiden name of the mother of the subject of this sketch was Susannah N. Cullom. She was the sister of Richard Northcraft Cullom, who with his family came to Tazewell

county from Kentucky in the same migration with the Phillipses, and who was a man of prominence in that county, representing his district in the legislature and the state senate during a considerable time in the early days. He was the father of Shelby M. Cullom, present senior United States senator from this state. Both the Culloms and the Phillipses were of Virginian stock, having both come to that colony from the old country before the Revolution—the Phillips family coming from Wales, and the Culloms, probably, from Scotland. Alfred Phillips died in May, 1857, when the subject of this memoir was but eleven years old. Newton, or Newt as he is commonly called, was the youngest of a family of nine children. After the death of the father, the minor children continued to reside with their mother upon the farm until the civil war came on, when the three youngest boys—all of the family who then remained unmarried—entered the Union army. The subject of the present sketch served one year in Company A of the 47th Illinois Infantry, and saw the closing days of the rebellion at the front. He participated in the Gulf campaign which terminated in the capture of Mobile, which occurred almost simultaneously with the surrender of Lee's army.

Previous to entering the military service of his country, the education of Mr. Phillips had been such as he could acquire in the district school of his neighborhood. On returning from the war, he attended school for a short time in the spring and summer of 1866 in the city of Peoria, and in the fall of that year, he came to Bloomington where he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University as a student. At this institution he remained three years, but owing to lack of means, he stopped short of taking a degree. The degree of M. A. has, however, been since conferred upon him by the institution, pro merito. Having taught school for one year to replenish his scanty purse, he entered the law office of Robert G. Ingersoll at Peoria, as a student of law, and after some months of study there, he went to Chicago in the fall of 1870, and entered the old Chicago law school of which Judge Booth was the Dean and the principal instructor. It was then the only law school in the city of Chicago. Since that time many other large law schools have sprung up there. From this school, Mr. Phillips took the degree of A. B. and in October, 1871, having been admitted to the bar of this state, he returned to Bloomington, of which city he has ever since been a resident.

In the fall of 1872, Mr. Phillips entered into a partnership with Joseph W. Fifer, under the firm name and style of Fifer & Phillips. This firm continued in the active practice of law until Mr. Fifer was elected governor of this state in the fall of 1888. Upon the retirement of Mr. Fifer from the governorship, the firm was re-established at Bloomington and continued in the practice until Mr. Phillips was appointed by the supreme court of this state as the official reporter of its decisions—an office which he still holds.

Mr. Phillips served a term upon the Board of Education of this city. He was master in chancery of the county for a little more than four years. While Mr. Fifer was governor, he occupied the position of chairman of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of this state.

Note—As a practicing lawyer Mr. Phillips took high rank in a very able bar. Within the last few years he has delivered addresses on Washington, Hamilton, Marshall and Lincoln, showing remarkable insight into the times of which he spoke and the character and achievements of the subjects of his addresses, all expressed in clear, strong, incisive, choice language. That upon Mr. Lincoln, one of the most difficult of all subjects, is one of the most successful of the innumerable orations on that unique character. E. M. P.

Franklin K. Phoenix.

Any accurate account of McLean county will give in its history of beneficent influences a prominent place to Franklin K. Phoenix, for many years the largest nurseryman of the west. He was born at Perry, New York, March 3, 1825. His opportunities for a scholastic education were limited. A common school education up to the age of twelve years, a year at a select school at Perry and one term in composition and declamation in a select school at Delavan, Wis. At which place in 1842, at the age of seventeen years he began his life work as a nurseryman and where he continued in business until 1854, when he sold out. In the summer of 1851 he bought Robert Fell's little

nursery on East Jefferson street, about a half block west of the Illinois Central R. R. at Bloomington, Ill., and the next spring he removed the nursery business to the Majors land northeast of this city. This was a very small affair to start with. In 1855 and 1856 the nursery covered ten acres, in 1858 eighty acres and 156 feet of green houses. In 1868 it had become the second largest nursery in the United States, covering 600 acres, and thirteen green houses with the choicest flowers, shrubs, trees and plants of all descriptions grown in the west, employing in the busy season 300 men, with a weekly pay roll of $3,000, and an annual business of $300,000, extending all over the United States, but principally in the west and south.

Notwithstanding Mr. Phoenix's limited school training he had the large education that comes from a strong mind, engaged in large affairs. He was not only highly intelligent in his own specialty, but was thoroughly well informed on all topics of general interest. He was neither too timid nor too lazy to think and had improved his mind, naturally quick, alert and active by extensive reading. He was an ambitious man, ambitious to be the leading nurseryman of the United States. He loved his vocation. It was not merely or chiefly to him a means of making money but beyond all it was dear to him as a great means by which he might bring beauty and happiness into the world, convert our bleak prairies into ideal farms, with stately groves, fruitful gardens, rich orchards, abundant vineyards and lovely flowers. No one person has done so much to make these wild expanses joyous with the choicest fruits of the temperate zone and our homes bowers of beauty as Franklin K. Phoenix.

He had great executive ability and unlimited confidence in his business and in the development of the west. He invested largely in land for his nurseries and also in nursery stock, both of which depreciated very largely owing to the readjustment of values arising from the resumption of specie payment and owing to the general financial derangement, neither lands nor stock were saleable and in 1877 he failed and the business was closed out in a court of bankruptcy, and he returned to Delavan, Wis., where he resumed the nursery business which he has ever since conducted on a small scale.

Mr. Phoenix was a liberal-minded, public-spirited man, always ready to do his part in all public enterprises. He was a man of "advanced views" on social and religious subjects. Until the last few years of his life here, he was a radical Republican. He was, however, always impatient at the slow conservatism of the world and later became a strong prohibitionist, contributing liberally by pen and purse to the cause. He was never in anything a half-hearted man. He was also an earnest advocate of the enlargement of woman's educational, industrial and political sphere. In religion he was a Unitarian, being one of the founders of the Free Congregational Society, now Unitarian church, of Bloomington, whose sole object and creed was and is, as declared by its constitution, to "co-operate in the study and practice of Christianity," and to whose support he liberally contributed until his financial embarrassment in 1877.

Mr. Phoenix, together with the other nurserymen of Bloomington and Normal, by the advertising which they did on a very large scale did much to advertise Bloomington and McLean county and thereby largely contributed to their development. The "Phoenix" nurseries became noted all over the United States and so valuable was considered the name that his successors, after a lapse of nearly a quarter of a century continue to do business under the name of the "Phoenix" nurseries.

Mr. Phoenix came to Bloomington with the railroads and shared in the marvelous development of Central Illinois in the next quarter of a century, a development seldom equaled in the history of the world and whoever has any regard for the higher forces that make for the upbuilding of a great people will bless the name of Franklin K. Phoenix.

Lawrence Milton Pierson.

Lawrence Milton Pierson was born October 6, 1878, at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Pierson, a mile and a half northeast of Pleasant Hill. His was a noble stock, springing from a long line of Scotch and Norman ancestry. He was the ninth from Francis Cooke—who came over in the Mayflower—the eighth from Abraham Pierson, the founder of Newark, N. J., and the seventh from Abraham Pierson, first president of Yale College. With such blood in his

MARY JANE PIERSON. LAWRENCE M. PIERSON.
LYDIA ANN SMITH.

veins, and surrounded by all the ennobling influences of a happy Christian home, it is no wonder that his life was full of bright promise for the future. In early boyhood he became a member of the Mackinaw Presbyterian church. His grandfather united with the church on the same day and it was a lovely sight to see the golden haired boy of thirteen with the gray-haired man almost ready to lay down his burdens, taking upon themselves the solemn vows binding them forever to their Heavenly Father and His people.

In 1898 Lawrence graduated from the Lexington high school, having completed the four years' course in three. His earnest studiousness had endeared him to his teachers, while his manly strength and kindness made him very popular with the other pupils. So marked was the latter that after his graduation, one of his school-mates said, "The school has never amounted to anything, especially in athletics, since Lawrence Pierson went away." It was not that Lawrence laid particular stress on athletics, but that recognizing well the value of a sound mind in a sound body he sought to obtain a symmetrical development of his already splendid physique.

In the fall of that same year he entered the freshman class of Knox College. During the year there he easily established his reputation as a good all-round student, athlete, and Christian young man. The next year saw him entering the sophomore class of Lake Forest College. His choice of Greek as a major subject stamped him as a man who was not looking for soft snaps. Because of his proficiency in his chosen line of work his professor remarked, "upon graduation here he could have commanded a $5,000 professorship." Lawrence Pierson very rarely mentioned his plans for the future but once he said he "Would not stop short of a Princeton chair of languages." This determination to climb higher always, was one of his chief characteristics. Although a prime favorite with his fellow students they early learned—some by physical, some by moral suasion—to be elsewhere than in his room when it was time to study. The same steadfastness of purpose marked his work on the football field as well as in lighter gymnastics. "When Pierson bucks the line the fur flies," was a current saying among Lake Forest boys, and it was an inspiring sight to see him running swiftly with the ball, the other men trailing away in the rear or being brushed aside as flies when they tried to tackle him. So he came to be the best man on the team as well as the best student of languages in Lake Forest. Because of his fast, hard playing and his excellency of scholarship, he received, during the summer of 1900 many fine offers to accept positions on the teams of other educational institutions. However he returned to Lake Forest and had been there just one week when in a practice game with the South Division high school, of Chicago, he received the injury which resulted in his death. On the morning of that day, after the second year German class had been dismissed, one of the students said to another, "Did you notice Pierson's recitation this morning?" "Yes, and felt very relieved to have him recite so much, as I hadn't been over that part of the lesson." Neither had he. He was practicing all morning for this afternoon's game and hadn't had a chance to look at it, but one would never have guessed it, so swiftly and easily did he read.

On the following day, when his father came Lawrence's indomitable courage and will showed themselves in his calm recital of the play in which he had been so seriously hurt, of the doctor's opinon that there was a slight chance of recovery, and of his own purpose to do all in his power to get well. But it was not so to be, and he was the first one to realize it. Deliberately, clearly, carefully he gave directions for the arranging of his personal affairs, left messages for the dear ones whom he would never see again and spoke cheering words to his stricken father and the others watching there. "Tell H——— I'll know in a few minutes what he won't learn in forty years of school teaching.", "Why are you crying? I'm all right." And then with the words of the Shepherd Psalm on his lips the brave young life entered the Great University where eternal life is spent in knowing God and Jesus Christ, His Son.

Many were the tributes of loving respect paid to his memory by teacher and fellow student especially. Mr. Finley, ex-president of Knox, wrote, "I had a strong liking for your son as was witnessed by my special effort to keep him at Knox. To the natural desire to hold all the good students, was added the motive of personal affection which began with

the first sight of him." Dr. McClure, of Lake Forest, said "Lawrence Pierson was beloved by us all. His genial, upright, earnest Christian character made his life beautiful and his death triumphant. Is it not beautiful to think of his strong, pure, beautiful life moving right on in the land of immortal youth and growing more and more into all power as it does in the service of God!" These are but two of the many testimonials received.

There was nothing goody-goody about Lawrence Pierson. Strong, self-reliant, determined to enrich and ennoble his life with all that was pure and good, not a whit of conceit about him, helpful to and thoughtful toward others, only those who knew him best can appreciate the glorious Christian manhood that was his.

Mary Jane Pierson.

Mary Jane Morrison, wife of James S. Pierson, was born at Salem, Jefferson county, Ohio, September 12, 1826. She was of covenanter stock, her parents being natives of Glasgow, Scotland, emigrated to this country in 1821, landing at St. Johns, Nova Scotia, where they remained one year when they removed to Salem, Jefferson county, Ohio. Her father, William Morrison, was a linen weaver in Scotland, but engaged in farming after coming to America. In the summer of 1826 her father and a brother went to New Orleans with a boat load of wheat and while there died of yellow fever, leaving a wife and three children, one brother and two sisters. Her mother's maiden name was Mary Young. She was one of nine children born to Wm. Young and Mary Brymer, his wife. The subject of this sketch was married to James S. Pierson, July 30, 1846, near Mt. Gilead, Morrow county, Ohio, the Rev. W. K. Brice, father of Senator Calvin Brice, being the officiating clergyman.

To them were born seven children, the first dying in infancy. Of the remainder, Arthur Van Dyke lives in Lexington. Mary L. is the wife of Dr. D. T. Douglass, of Colfax, Ill. Emily A. married James A. Bailey, and resides in Montgomery county, Indiana. James Elmer died December 8, 1893. Sarah E. is living with her mother in Lexington. Grace H. married Howard McFarland, and died January 19, 1897. On July 30, 1896, was celebrated the golden wedding of this worthy couple, some sixty or seventy of their friends and neighbors participating on that glad occasion. Mrs. Pierson came with her husband to McLean county in June, 1853, and has been a resident of this state ever since. She was always given to hospitality as the custom was in those early days and none went hungry from her door. Her husband departed this life May 19, 1900. After her husband's death she left the old home that had been her home for almost half a century and is now living in Lexington where she is always glad to see and entertain her old friends.

Edward M. Pike.

Edward M. Pike was born in Casco, Maine, July 1, 1838, the eighth in descent from an English family that came with the early Puritan emigration to New England. He was raised on a rough New England farm until he was sixteen years old when he came with his parents to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1854. He attended school winters and worked summers until 1859 when he entered the State Normal University which he attended until 1861. Of revolutionary stock the patriotic impulse was too strong to be resisted and August 21, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, 33 Ill. Inf. (Normal) Regt. of which he was soon appointed an O. sergeant and served over three years and two months. He was a model soldier, "Strong as an ox," hardy, temperate, in perfect health, he was always ready for duty. Cool, self-possessed in time of danger, he could always be depended on to do the right thing at the right time. He was engaged in eighteen fights and skirmishes, among them Fredericks-town, Mo., Cache River, Ark., Champion Hills, Raymond, Port Gibson, Black River bridge, charge on Vicksburg, Siege of Vicksburg, Fort Esperanza, Texas, Princeton, Miss., etc. For his "gallantry in action" at Cache River, July 7, 1862, he received the famous bronze medal authorized by congress July 12, 1862, and March 3, 1863, given only to non-commissioned officers and privates for distinguished gallantry in action. Out of the over 4,000 Union soldiers of McLean county only four have received this coveted piece of metal. Marshall, in his account of the battle, says that when obliged to fall back "the little steel cannon with their company became detached from its caisson and was about to fall into the hands of the enemy. In response to the captain's

EDWARD M. PIKE.

order to save the gun "Sergeant Ed. Pike of our company, ran and grabbed hold of the cannon with one hand, his own rifle in the other, and with the strength of a giant and the assistance of one comrade ran the cannon down the road, hooked it on the caisson, and the boys pulled it to the rear and saved the gun.. The horses were all killed. The nearest horseman was almost close enough to have struck Pike with his saber. The rebels, however, were completely dashed by the audacity of the movement," for they thought the gun was theirs.

The writer remembers the remark made to him by one of Pike's comrades soon after the close of the war, "Pike was always cheerful and always helping some sick, weak boy. While we were marching over the hot, dusty, sandy roads of Arkansas and every one just ready to drop in his tracks Pike would break out in a song or joke that would be heard by half of the regiment and put heart in us all again, and in addition to his own Ed was often seen carrying some weak soldier's gun or knapsack."

At the presidential election in November, 1864, the Republicans of Bloomington put the workers at the polls under the charge of Pike who had just returned from the army. He organized a force of about a dozen soldiers. Dr. Worrell had charge of the Democratic workers. Pike and his men made such fun and sport of their opponents that by the middle of the afternoon Dr. Worrell and his men had one by one retired from the contest leaving Pike's squad in full control.

Soon after his return from the army he was appointed on the police force of Bloomington, where he served until November, 1866, when he was elected sheriff of McLean county in which office he held two years. For a few months he was in the internal revenue department. In March, 1869, he went into the lumber business at Chenoa with his brothers, Noah and Alpheus. Some twelve years later in company with J. Castle he established the Chenoa Brick and Tile Works in which he continued till 1896, when he sold out of it. While in the brick and tile works he invented and patented "Pike's kiln" for burning all kinds of clay products, which has proved a successful and profitable invention.

Of minor offices he has held are six years on the county board of supervisors, for thirteen times he has been elected president of the Chenoa city school board, a position which he now holds. He built and is the owner of the Pike House, a fine hotel at Chenoa.

In 1869 he married Miss Eunice Fugate, of Bloomington. They have two children: E. Scott Pike and Eunice Augusta Pike Kerr.

He has been an active life-long Republican, and always ready to do his share as a public spirited citizen.—E. M. Prince.

William J. Rhodes.

Wm. J., the son of John H. S. and Mary Rhodes, was born February 16, 1825, in Blooming Grove, McLean county, Illinois. In his early youth he attended school in Blooming Grove in a log school house with split logs for benches. Among his teachers were Chaney Thomas, Swingle, Wm. Hodge, Cyrenius Wakefield and Wm. Withers. The greatest regret of his life is that his father did not send him to school to complete his education, which was obtained chiefly by studying at home evenings. In his eighteenth year his father and Mr. Gardner Randolph started south in April, bought up a drove of cattle, took them to Wisconsin, sold them and returned in September. He left his farm at that time of about 500 acres in young William's hands, to cultivate and manage as his judgment directed him. This was a great responsibility for one so young, for he had several hands working under him, yet he resolved to make it a success, and he did so. He has always thought this the best thing his father ever did for him. It was a great stimulus. He resolved to have everything complete. There were in his early years many humorous incidents occurred, too good to leave unchronicled. At one time his father sent him to Chicago with a load of apples, arriving in town he put up at the Temperance hotel. In the morning when the bell rang for breakfast, he politely lingered behind, not wishing to rush forward as if he was starved. To his great astonishment, people were all rushing and pushing past him like a drove of cattle, and when he reached the dining room the seats were all filled and he had to wait. He thought to himself, if this is the way town folks act I have learned a lesson, I'll be ready next time. At the dinner hour he stood by the door, when the bell rang he walked in and took a seat

at the table. The next morning he was looking around town and another landlord rang the bell for breakfast as he was passing by—the landlord said, "Come in and eat your breakfast." So he did and when he was through, he arose and thanked the landlord, took his hat and left. At another time he was sent with grist to a mill near Peoria. When he arrived there were many loads ahead of him, and he had to wait all the week. By this time the provisions which he had carried with him were exhausted, and he had to eat parched corn two or three days. At last the miller told him, if he would cut wood for him one day he would give him his dinner. He commenced and cut wood till late in the afternoon, and nothing was said about dinner. Presently a man came along and told him that if he would go along with him and help him cut down a beetree he would give him all the honey he could eat, he gave his help and took about 150 pounds of nice, rich honey, and he ate three or four pounds, which satisfied his hunger and greatly strengthened him.

He lived with his father till he was nearly twenty-four years old, when he married Miss Sarah M. Cowden, daughter of Mr. Rives and Mary Cowden, when his father gave him 100 acres of land and he went to work for himself. They had eight children born to them, five of whom are living. He was very much devoted to his wife, who was an invalid for fifteen years, and finally died in April, 1872. He made the statement in speaking of her sufferings, that he thought he did not take his clothing off to go to bed and sleep, a dozen times the whole last year of her sickness, but sat by her bed side in an arm chair and took care of her. This greatly incapacitated him for carrying on his business to the best advantage. Watching the sick all night and rolling the ball of heavy labor all day, soon told on his constitution. He lived on his farm, one mile east of his father's old home, and four miles from the Bloomington court house, on the LeRoy road.

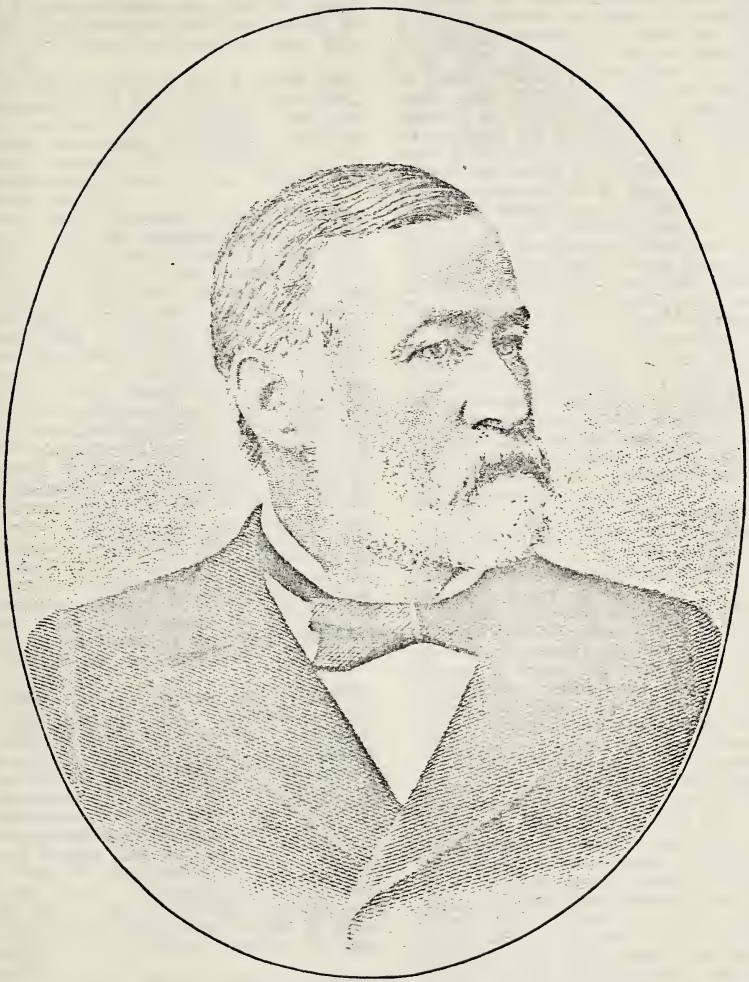
In November 1873, he married Miss Elizabeth R. Arnold, daughter of Geo. M. and Sarah Arnold, of Blooming Grove. For fifteen years she was a teacher in Woodford and McLean counties. In November, 1875, their daughter, Sarah E. E., was born, who has married Dr. Harry E. Becker, to whom was born one son, little William Rhodes Becker. His last marriage has proved to be a very happy one.

He is now spending his matured life in sweet retirement on his farm. He is a man richly endowed with a love for the beautiful in nature, is a great lover of flowers, fruits and growing trees. With his own hands he planted a grove of five acres of forest trees just west of his present home, which is the admiration of the passer-by. This is called "Rhodes Grove." It not only beautifies his home, but has proved a great protection in storms and cold weather. Mr. Rhodes was the first master of Blooming Grove Patrons of Husbandry, which organization he represented in the state for several years, and farmers throughout the state are now reaping the benefits of legislation gained through the labors of this organization. Mr. Rhodes for many years was a staunch Republican, but in 1885 affiliated with the Prohibition party. For three years he lived in Bloomington to give his children better opportunities for education, and while here was strongly solicited to accept the nomination for city mayor on the independent ticket, but he declined. From early manhood he has been a staunch member of the Christian church, contributing liberally to the building of a Christian church in Blooming Grove, of which he has been an elder for many years. But few pioneers have contributed to this generation one who has more zealousy advocated justice, morality, and Christianity, or one who has done more according to his ability to build up in the scale of morality and education in his community and his county.

Matthew T. Scott.

One of the most prominent figures in Central Illinois for many years was Matthew Thompson Scott, who died at his home in Bloomington, May 21, 1891. Born at Lexington, Ky., February 24, 1828, he came of distinguished ancestors whose good name he worthily sustained.

The Scott family was of Scotch-Irish stock, and emigrated to this country in colonial times, settling first in New Jersey. They were a prolific race, and their descendants became scattered in the surrounding states. It is from a Pennsylvania branch that the subject of this paper came. His ancestors and relatives of the Revolutionary generation showed the love of



MATTHEW T. SCOTT.

liberty and manly spirit which is characteristic of the Scotch-Irish stock, by serving in the continental armies during the war for independence. The later generations have, wherever found, always occupied the highest social positions, and have been distinguished for force of character and integrity, and for ability in the professions or business they followed.

Mr. Scott himself was a noble representative of the vigorous intellect, the sterling moral qualities, and the manly, generous self-reliant nature, which seems to be hereditary in the Scotch-Irish blood from which his family sprang.

He was descended from Robert Scott, an old covenanter hero, who lived in the latter part of the sixteenth century, and fought at the battle of Bothwell Briggs for the covenant and the crown. Robert Scott was a member of the old Scottish Parliament, and opposed the union of the crowns during the reign of Queen Ann, because of the ignoring of the Scottish crown and name, in the new Parliament of Great Britain. For this offense he, with a number of others of the two houses of the old Parliament, suffered in the Tower of London with the risk of their heads, until released by an amnesty of George I, when he was brought over from Hanover to take the throne, in virtue of being a descendant of the Stuarts. Robert Scott and his friend, the Earl of Belhaven—a member of the upper house of the old Parliament—emigrated in disgust to the north of Ireland.

John Scott, eldest son of Robert Scott, emigrated to America in 1725, and settled in New Jersey. Matthew, a son of this John Scott, was married in 1762 or 1763 to Betsy Thompson, a daughter of William Thompson, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, distinguished as patriot and military commander in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

One of the grandsons of William and Betsy Thompson was Matthew T. Scott, Sr., who with two brothers emigrated from Pennsylvania to Kentucky in the early history of that state.

Matthew T. Scott, upon his removal to Kentucky, became prominently identified with the development of the state, and was recognized during his active life as one of its most distinguished financiers. He became connected with the Northern Bank of Kentucky at its organization and was for thirty years the executive head of that great financial institution, the business of which extended over a wide area of territory. Through the many monetary panics incident to the period of its existence, this bank passed, under the management of Matthew T. Scott, without ever suspending specie payment, or omitting its regular dividend of eight per cent.

Of this parentage came Matthew T. Scott, whose prominence as a pioneer and citizen of Illinois entitles him to a place among the historical personages of the state. In Lexington, Kentucky, his birthplace, he received his early educational training. The environments of his youth were such as contributed in the greatest degree to the developmnt of high character, intellectual vigor and true manhood. Lexington was then more noted perhaps than any city west of the Allegheny mountains as a center of wealth, culture and refinement, and, as the home of Henry Clay, was not less prominent as a political Mecca. The stimulus of these environments could not fail to affect even a less susceptible youth than Matthew T. Scott, and in his case, new virtues were added to those which came to him as a rightful heritage from worthy ancestors.

After receiving his preparatory training at Lexington, he was sent to Centre College, at Danville, Kentucky, where he graduated when but eighteen years of age.

A year after his graduation he was sent to Ohio by his father to assume the management of a large landed estate in which he was given an interest. He remained there several years managing the interest committed to his charge with success and developing meantime the keen foresight and business sagacity which made him a conspicuous figure in the greatest of western states in later years. While living in Ohio and giving his attention largely to the management of his affairs there, the range of his vision was by no means confined to the territory in which his farming operations were then carried on. He was familiar with the history of the Illinois country and had made explorations which convinced him that the young state of Illinois would, in the near future, develop into one of the great commonwealths of the United States. Feeling that the time had come to begin the development of the latent resources of this vast section of country, he made for himself and mem-

bers of his family large investments in Illinois and Iowa lands, which were purchased in the main from the government, and hence were devoid of any kind of improvements.

The lands thus acquired were not held for speculative purposes, but with an energy and tenacity of purpose which were among his distinguished characteristics, he proceeded as rapidly as possible to bring them under cultivation and convert them into productive farms. He thus inaugurated a system of improvements which was carried forward on a gigantic scale, and which had a vastly beneficial effect upon a broad area of territory.

His first important enterprise in Illinois was the founding of the town of Chenoa in 1856. Here he owned and cultivated a large tract of land, which was the first large farm in the state, cultivated without fences, other than those used to confine his own stock. His successful experiments in farming, without going first to the expense of fencing the lands to be cultivated, and his testimony relative to this matter before a legislative committee, led to the passage of the "No Fence Law" of Illinois, the effect of which was to increase largely the area of cultivated land, and to greatly facilitate the development of the agricultural resources of the state.

Mr. Scott believed that agriculture must constitute the basis of all prosperity in the west, and that farming lands must inevitably become valuable possessions. It was natural, therefore, that he should extend his early investments as his fortunes increased, but his acquisitions were always made with a view to development and improvement. Like his ancestors of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, he was one of the builders of the commonwealth, a promoter of general prosperity, and a potent factor in the advancement of our civilization.

In 1859 Mr. Scott was married to Miss Julia, daughter of Rev. Lewis Warner Green, D. D., the president of Centre College, Danville, Kentucky, and formerly president of Hampden-Sidney College, Virginia. Soon after his marriage he took up his residence at Chenoa, the village he had laid out a few years before. Here he spent several of the happiest years of his life, actively engaged in cultivating and improving his lands, not only there, but in other counties of the state, and giving the same faithful and careful attention to the investments he had made for other members of his family. He and Mrs. Scott lived in mutual interchange of neighborly kindnesses and courtesies with the people of the village and surrounding country, entering cheerfully into all social and religious movements, having for their object a healthy, moral tone for the young and formative community. This had the effect to attract the most desirable class of settlers, with the result of building up upon this foundation, a little city, whose population, for intelligence, culture and respect for law —moral and religious—ranks equal to any community in the state.

From his farm at Chenoa he removed to Springfield, Ill., in 1870, and resided there until 1872, when he removed to Bloomington, where he purchased a beautiful home in which he spent the remaining years of his life. At Bloomington he became actively interested in promoting the growth and prosperity of the city and tributary country, and in various important business enterprises. He organized the McLean County Coal Company, and as president of this corporation during the remainder of his life, developed and built up another of the great industries of Central Illinois. The importance of this enterprise to the city of Bloomington need not be more than suggested. Its subsequent growth, and present prosperity, as well as that of the surrounding country, is due more to that, than to any other enterprise within the county.

A man of keen perceptions and great activity, of public spirit and sterling integrity, his aid was solicited for many enterprises set on foot by men of energy and business capacity, but lacking the substantial resources necessary to success. To these enterprises, so far as they seemed to him to be meritorious, he always extended substantial encouragement, and thus he indirectly set in motion the wheels of industries with which he was not directly connected. When failure followed, as was sometimes the case, he pocketed his loss without a show of disappointment, still less of reproach. Noblesse oblige was the key to—the grand unconscious motto of—his unselfish life.

In important operations he acted promptly and boldly, and met difficulties and obstacles with the resolution and tenacity of a remarkably strong will. It may be said that he

achieved his successes rather than met them.

A sketch of the life and character of a strictly business man, must be, to some extent, a sketch of his business history. for it is only thus that his relations to the public can be understood and appreciated. And such a man was Mr. Scott. He was never a public man, in the ordinary sense. He was never an office holder, or an office seeker, having no taste for official or political life. even if his business interests would have permitted him to enter it. But during all his business life, he held many important relations to the public interest. through the business enterprises he conducted, for in all of them, the public was a large, indirect beneficiary. In fact, he never sought to figure personally before the public, in any light, or any relation. His influence was felt as a strong, steady, moving force, in the social, moral, and industrial movements of the community, rather than seen, an influence which quickened into healthful action the social, moral and industrial pulse of the community, and thus contributed to its upbuilding. In politics Mr. Scott was a "Henry Clay" Whig, prior to the war. In the memorable presidential campaign of 1860, he supported the Bell and Everett "Constitutional Union" ticket, and was a strong advocate of the preservation of the Union through a compromise of the differences between the northern and southern states. Later he affiliated with the Democratic party, and in 1881 with others, founded the Bloomington Bulletin, a Democratic newspaper of which he subsequently became the sole proprietor, and which he sold some years since to Hon. Owen Scott, formerly representative in congress from the Bloomington congressional district.

His friend and pastor for twenty-one years. Rev. J. W. Dinsmore, D. D., writes of him:

"His friendships wound themselves about the strongest fibres of his being. No man, woman or child, who ever had occasion to test this quality, in this man, ever found him lacking. No sacrifice, no inconvenience to himself was too great, if he could serve a friend. And in this relation, he knew neither politics nor creed, rank or station, poverty or wealth. He was singularly free from that kind of bigotry of opinion on any subject, which would incline him to place those who differed from him, beyond the pale of friendship or of sympathy.

"He simply followed his own tastes, his own ideas of propriety, and business judgment, and left others to do the same.

"He joined
Each office of the social hour
To noble manners, as the flower
And native growth of noble mind;
And thus he bore without abuse
The grand old name of gentleman."

"The qualities that were in his blood; the traditions of his family; the influences that came in upon his early years. all helped to make him what he was. a high-souled, large-minded, noble-hearted, Christian gentleman.

"He had a sturdy, stalwart, powerful physical frame, and was a man of great bodily strength and agility in his early days. He had a very vigorous, and well-disciplined mind. He was a close observer of men and things; an acute thinker; alert, shrewd, discriminating, not easily deceived, quickly piercing to the core of the matter and discerning between the genuine and the spurious, the true and the false. He was a man of large intelligence, and highly interesting and entertaining to those who enjoyed an intimacy with him.

"As touching his moral qualities, he was strong, bold, steadfast in every good sense of the word. A more fearless man it would not be easy to find. A gentler, kinder, more considerate and affectionate man it would be equally hard to find. Like all such men, in his affections and antipathies alike, he was intense and enduring. Whatever, or whomsoever he loved, he loved with the whole strength of his powerful nature. and his loyalty would stand a tremendous strain. His hatreds were according to the same rule. His self-sacrificing devotion to his friends was remarkable. I have never known any man who would so quickly and cheerfully put himself out, sacrifice his own ease, convenience and self-interest, to oblige a friend, as would this man. Particularly, had he a very uncommon respect to woman. There was a high-bred chivalry in his nature which never failed to show itself in the most gracious courtesy and deference to even the humblest of womankind. All meanness, mendacity, cowardice and cruelty, he despised and detested. While polite and obliging to all, he did not at once

disclose himself to everybody. It took time to find him out, to get into his rich nature, and know the man as he was within. Those who knew him best, esteemed him most. He was built on a large model in all good respects, and was full of warm affections, generous sympathies, high and noble impulses. He was a strong staff to lean upon; a brave, faithful, effectual friend to confide in to the uttermost. Upon the whole, a more valiant, loyal brotherly soul mine has never come into contact with in this world. Now he has gone into the presence of the Great Master, whom he implicitly trusted and reverently worshiped. His going brought a great grief to me. The world seems lonesome without him. The loss and grief to his family, words cannot tell. Into their sacred sorrow, I can enter in part, at least, with tender and tearful sympathy."

Arthur J. Scrogin.

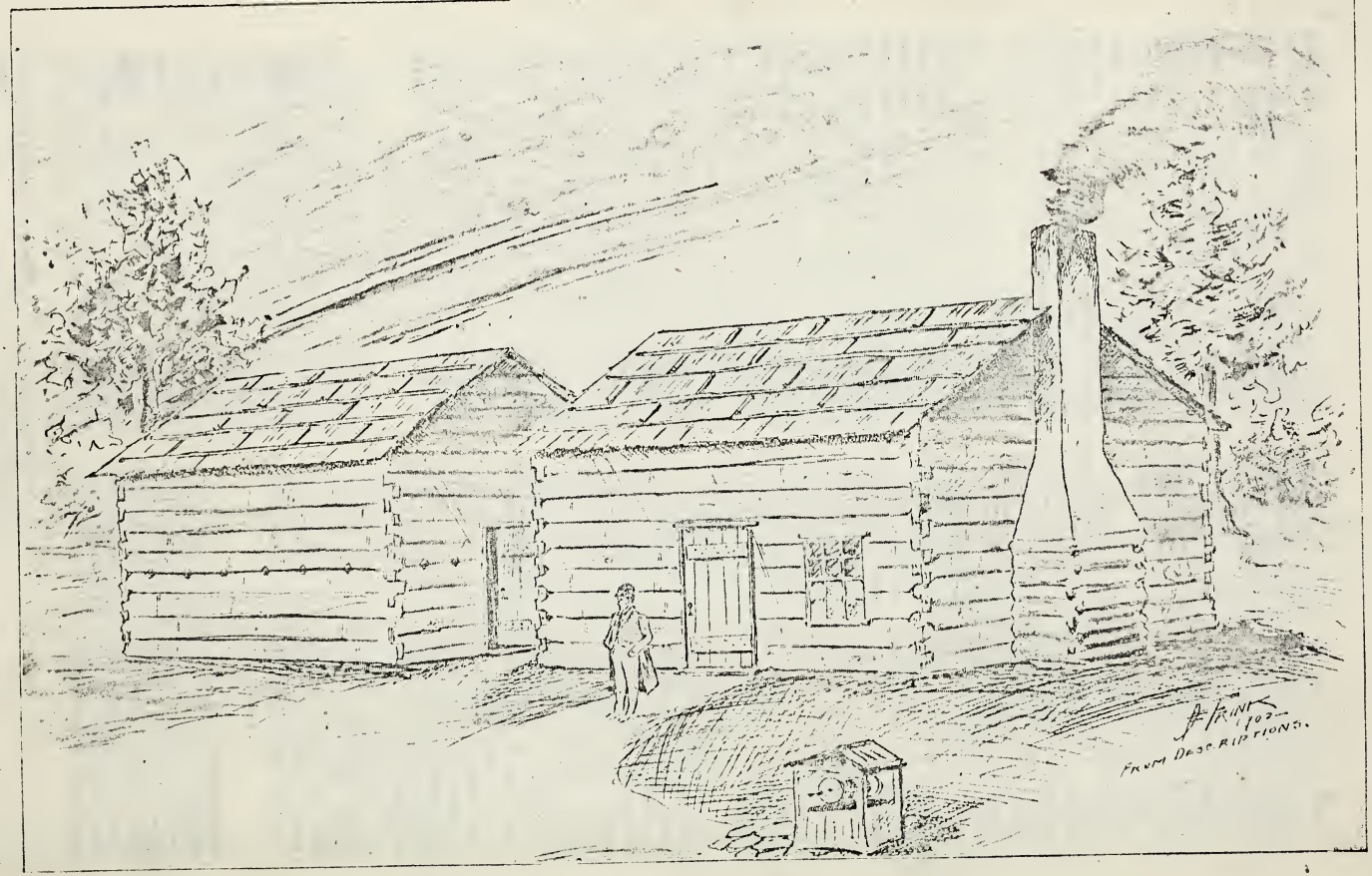
Arthur J. Scrogin, the son of Levin P. and ——— Scrogin, was born at Lexington, McLean county, Illinois, the 25th day of August, 1853, was educated in the common schools of Lexington, supplemented by two years at Shurtleff College, Upper Alton. His father was one of the organizers of the Republican party in McLean county and his son, Arthur, followed in his father's political footsteps, and from the time he had a vote has been a leader of that party in the northern part of the county. For several years he was a member of the board of supervisors, and for two years served as chairman of the board. He served three terms in the legislature where by his industry, intelligence and integrity, he took a high rank among the most influential and valuable members of the legislature. Mr. Scrogin is a member of the Knights of Pythias. On September 29, 1874, he married Amelia C. Gray, and has three children, two girls and a boy. Mr. Scrogin is president of the Home State Bank at Lexington, and is largely engaged in farming.

Jason R. Simer.

Jason R. Simer is deserving of mention in the history of education of McLean county. Mr. Simer was born February 14, 1859, on a farm near Salem, Marion county, Ill. His father was of German descent and his mother was a daughter of William Gaston, state senator from that district who was Scotch-Irish. Mr. Simer attended school in the country school until he had gotten a fair idea of the common branches of study. He then procured a teachers' certificate and taught one term of school. He was then admitted to the Southern Illinois State Normal school at Carbondale, Ill., where he did three years' work, paying his expenses by working as a farm hand during the summer vacations. Since leaving the normal school he has been a faithful teacher. In 1891 he was married to Miss May Galloway of Salem, Ill., and the same year took charge of the Bellflower schools. For eleven years he taught and supervised in McLean county as follows: Two years at Bellflower, four years at Danvers, one year at Towanda and four years at Saybrook, and is now in charge of the public schools at Cisco, in Piatt county, and is making an effort to organize a township high school and has great promise of success. His greatest work in McLean county was in the effort to bring about a closer relation of the graded schools in the county. He argued for a closer union of courses of study and a comparison of work in the different graded schools. He was chairman of the literary committee in the Principals' Association for the two years of its organization and in this position did all in his power to promote the friendly contests which are pronounced by our best educators to be the most advanced step of our schools. He argued that the course in the common branches should be the same in all the schools of the county and thus make it possible to compare the work in the grades of all our schools and that such comparison would be helpful to both town and country.

Mr. Simer is a constant worker in the Sabbath schools of the county also. He is trying to secure better teaching in the Sabbath schools and has gone before many of the township conventions of Sabbath school workers to plead for the organization of classes in the Sabbath school for normal Bible work, he has been normal superintendent of Bible work in the county for five years and ever since he has gone into the adjoining county he is still retained in this position and is doing the work by correspondence.

Politically Mr. Simer is a Republican and was twice candidate before the Republican convention for the office of county superintendent. He made an honorable race each time and



JOHN PATTON BLOCK HOUSE AND CABIN, 1832.

had many warm supporters among the best educators of the county but is more of an educator than politician and argues that the office of county superintendent should be filled by educators rather than those who are willing to pay the ward heelers so much money for the office.

Lydia Ann Smith.

Lydia Ann Goddard, wife of Milton Smith, was the daughter of Dr. Abbott Goddard and Fanny Lewis, his wife, and was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, September 23, 1820. Her father, Dr. Goddard, was one of the early settlers of our county, coming here with his family in 1835, settling near Lexington, and soon became a man of note in the community. He was not only a physician but a minister in the Methodist church also. He also for a time held the office of a captain in the militia. Dr. Goddard was born in Virginia, May 28, 1785. Was married to Miss Fanny Lewis in 1810. To them were born six children, four boys and two girls. Mrs. Goddard died in May, 1845, and the Doctor October 12, 1857. Lydia Ann, their oldest daughter, was married to Milton Smith, November 23, 1837, at her father's residence, near Lexington. The house is still standing in which she was married, 'Squire Thompson performing the ceremony. The newly married couple began housekeeping in a log cabin built by the groom on his farm, just east of Pleasant Hill, where they continued to reside for more than fifty years. Here they passed through all the hardships incidental to those early times. Mrs. Smith was celebrated for her hospitality and the latch-string was always out. To them were born eleven children, two dying in young childhood; the remainder are all living. Ann Mary, wife of G. B. Okeson; Sarah F., married Morrimus Strayer; William A., Fletcher M., Carrie, wife of A. V. Pierson; Kate, wife of L. D. Poole; Lewis H., George J., and Estelle, wife of H. S. Shade. All these reside in Lexington.

November 23, 1887, Mr. and Mrs. Smith celebrated their golden wedding. A large company of their friends and neighbors gathered in offering their congratulations and helping in the festivities, making it an occasion long to be remembered.

Her husband died of pneumonia February 13, 1888. After his death Mrs. Smith left the farm where she had come as a bride and which had been her home for more than fifty years, removing to Lexington, making that her home until her death which occurred May 9, 1890. Thus passed from earth one of those pioneer women that did well her part in every condition in life in which she was placed. During the Civil war her heart went in sympathy for her country's defenders and of the patriotic women of the north none were more ready or liberal than she in providing for and ministering to their comfort. It can be truly said the world is better because of her life.

Archibald E. Stewart.

Archibald Evans Stewart was born August 21, 1834, at the home of his parents in Randolph's Grove, McLean county, Ill. His father, Samuel Stewart, was a Virginian by birth, but moved to Ohio when a young man, where he married in 1861 a lady whose maiden name was Jane Handley. In 1831 he came to Randolph's Grove. The next year he moved his family and began making his farm. In 1834 he built a brick house which is still standing, and is said to have been the first brick house built in McLean county. One curious about methods of building could do no better than to visit this old house with its puncheon floors, lath cut from the native block and split by the ax; the hand-made windows and doors, a real curiosity which the family reverentially preserved. Here the father died after enjoying but a few years of his new home. Mrs. Stewart, the mother, was a woman of strong character, and nine children, of which Archibald was the youngest, not too much for a pioneer mother to care for. A liberal-thinking family they were, brought up in the practice of virtue, economy and self-reliance.

Archibald learned to read while sitting at his mother's knee in the home, and while he was getting the rudiments of an education, Mr. Walter Wilson was teaching school in an adjoining room, which was the first school taught in Randolph township. The first school house built in the township was built on the southwest corner of the Stewart homestead, and there Archibald first went to school. This school house was also used for preaching, the pioneer preacher, Peter Cartwright, often preaching there. Archibald really acquired his knowledge mostly from reading, however,

for the love of books and everything readable was almost a part of this nature, and next to this was his love for music. He was a hearty boy until he was ten or twelve years old, and then it was he had a long spell of ague so prevalent in those days and in this was lost considerable of his strength. He had to work like many another pioneer boy, harder than he was able. This hard work was very necessary in pioneer days, as money was scarce and everything they used had to be raised or made from the raw material. When about fifteen years old he had another spell of sickness which caused Dr. Harrison Noble, the family physician, to advise taking the boy from the farm and sending him to school in order to get an education to fit him for a profession. He often used to say, "Oh, but I was obliged to Dr. Noble for this advice." He was about sixteen when his mother took him to Bloomington to enter him in the Wesleyan University, which was then in the basement of the Methodist church, then on the corner of East and Washington streets, and was struggling for existence under the care and tireless labors of Drs. Goodfellow and Andrus. Here he met the writer, and as these boys were both sons of pioneer widows who could not keep the wolf from the door and furnish money for their boys at college, on their partially cultivated farms, with corn selling at 7 cents per bushel, wheat at 31 or 32 cents and pork at $1.50 per hundred in distant markets, they were drawn together by one common ambition and a distressing lack of funds with which to carry out their plans. Having formed a partnership, the young firm proceeded to take contracting, splittin and transferring from the edges the streets (now sidewalks, to the terior of the fenced lots, the cord wood which had been piled thereon. For this they were paid 75 cents per cord, a compensation which they received with a clear conscience, believing that the money had been honestly earned. No strikes ever resulted from this labor union. Among the patrons of the firm were such men as Colman. Doughty, Lewis Bunn and others. The young firm lived and studied in a small room, enjoying life and having as schoolmates such men as James S. Ewing, Adlai E. Stevenson, Hon. D. M. Funk and Hon. Lafayette Funk of Funk's Grove, and others who have since reached high positions in law, politics and finance. With the coming of the spring, the firm was dissolved, the parties returning to their homes on the farm. Young Archibald was an unusually bright boy and he went to Boston to study, intending to be a journalist, and no doubt Boston was a great revelation to this bright, wide-awake boy from the prairies. Here he heard the witty Father Taylor, who preached to sailors, and Theadore Parker, the great anti-slavery preacher and lecturer. He visited Cambridge, saw "Fair Harvard," got a peep at Longfellow and heard Emerson and Holmes. That year at Boston was to his quick, ambitious spirit a liberal education. This experience, following his three years at the Wesleyan, gave him a wide education. Before going to Boston he had taught school at the Shiloh and "Whig Row" schools, both in his home township. He had to undergo many hardships in obtaining his education, but he did not complain, so eager was he to learn. His ambition to learn, his quick wit and poetic nature, was the stimulant that carried him over the few advantages of the times. After coming from Boston he read medicine with his old friend, neighbor and guardian, Dr. Harrison Noble, and then entered Rush Medical College at Chicago. He finished his medical education at Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia in 1858.

On the 10th day of May, 1859, he married Miss Emily Stewart of Fairmont, W. Va., who was of no relation, though of the same family name, and to them were born three sons and three daughters, one of the latter dying in infancy. Bringing his bride with him, Dr. Stewart entered upon the practice of medicine and was elected county physician of McLean county.

He was a man of fine physique, standing over six feet and two inches tall, and was a natural leader among men. Besides being a school teacher, he was also a music teacher of great ability and was always in his element as a teacher of leader of any sort. Many of his old friends will remember when he taught singing school and how well he did it. He organized the first band and orchestra in that part of the country, and was noted everywhere for his ability in that line. He was a man of great courage, hated superstition and shams of all kinds. Probably the most remarkable trait of his character was his generosity, for no one was ever turned from his door

hungry or in want, nor was anyone refused who wished to borrow, and being of such absolute rugged honesty, he believed everyone else to be the same way, and therefore often loaned money which was never returned. He had a sympathizing nature and was always ready to hear of one's troubles and ready and willing to help them in a substantial way. Once when acting as justice of the peace a claim was put into his hands to collect against one of his poor neighbors. Instead of issuing an execution, he went to the man, and after talking over the situation loaned the man the money necessary to pay off the claim and save the costs. Needless to say, the man forgot to repay and the doctor often laughed at his efforts as a collector.

Dr. Stewart was a lover of nature and of a poetic temperament, he loved the stately trees of his home, the little stream where he played as a boy, the wild flowers of the prairie and the blue sky above him. Above all, he loved the home where he was born and where his father had died, and around which clustered all the tender memories of his boyhood and early manhood, and he determined to stay at the old homestead, choosing the hard life of a country practitioner, instead of seeking the "crowded haunts of men."

As a physician Dr. Stewart met with great success. He was well fitted for the profession and was thoroughly trained in its work. He was always cheery, having a wise and witty word as well as the best prescription for his patients. He was a favorite with all. He was a thinker and a humorist. Could talk corn and cattle with the farmer, gossip a little with the old ladies, have a wise word for the young men, a bit of humor for the girls, talk politics with the politician and religion with the deacon.

In August, 1862, he enlisted in the 94th regiment of Illinois volunteers. He resigned his position as county physician and became first assistant surgeon of his regiment. The board of supervisors passed resolutions complimenting him on his success as county physician. He made an excellent soldier, filling the position of surgeon to the greatest satisfaction of all the men. At the battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, he had his first experience of bloody warfare, and Lieut. W. W. Elder was the first man wounded to need his attention. He exposed himself to all sorts of dangers during his service in the army, and was often exposed to the ravages of smallpox and yellow fever, so prevalent in New Orleans and the south, where he was stationed the greater part of the time. While at Brownsville, Texas, in the fall of 1864, Maj.-Gen. Herron, in command of that department, issued a special order commending Dr. Stewart's professional services, of which the old soldiers of his regiment also speak in the highest terms.

With the 94th regiment for three years Dr. Stewart shared all the dangers, labors and glories of war, being in all the engagements, acting not only as medical adviser, but sharing with the soldiers in their worries and ambitions, sympathizing in their troubles, in all the soldier life a friend as much as a physician and a comrade more than an officer. During the siege of Vicksburg his first attack of asthma came upon him, and from it and frequent subsequent exposures he never completely recovered.

After the regiment was mustered out he never lost his deep interest in its members, but was unflagging in his efforts to keep up the reunions and the regimental history, and after his family (to which no man could have been more devoted) the regiment seemed to claim his strongest affection.

After the war he gave his attention to his farm, retiring from the practice of medicine.

In 1872 Dr. Stewart was elected as a Republican member of the Illinois legislature, and was also re-elected in 1874. As a legislator he was conscientious, fearless and independent. His record as a lawmaker stands without a blemish. Among the many excellent men who have represented McLean county, few, if any, have shown greater ability, zeal and fidelity in the service of the people than he. He was chairman of the Committee of the State Geological Survey, and also a member of the committee on education and public buildings, and as one of the committee visited many of the state institutions. He made a speech at the Illinois State University which is said to be one of the best efforts of his legislative career. The following extract from his speech may be of interest at this time, as it shows very forcibly the character of the man. Dr. Stewart said:

"Young ladies and gentlemen: Mc-

Lean county sends three members to the legislature, and according to the modern idea of the division of labor, each one of them has a specific duty to perform. One of us furnishes the good looks, one does the talking and the other the work. (Laughter). I am entirely too modest a man to intimate which duty devolves on me, but it is only justice to one of my colleagues to state that the 'talking member' has been left behind. * * * " This is the only school in the state, so far as I know, that is pre-eminently the workingman's school. I am a working man, and so I claim it is especially my representative school. To be sure, I am more directly interested in the State Normal University, as that is in my county, and I take especial pride in it; but after all, it is the school for teaching how to teach. If you want to teach come over and we will let you in the finest school of the kind in the world but if you don't want to teach, we can't do you much good. But if my boy wants to be a scientific farmer, merchant, mechanic, engineer—in short, if he designs following any practical business, as ninety-nine out of a hundred of our boys ought to do—why, then, here is the place for him, and here he ought to come. The people of this great state expect that when you go out in life it will not be as dreamers, not as theorizers, not even as thinkers, in the sense of thinkers only, but as practical, earnest every-day working men and women. I hope no young man will go from this institution to plow with kid gloves on, or to husk corn in a plug hat; and I am sure that these young ladies need no adornment in the way of silks and satins to render them attractive to the honest, hard-working young men who will soon claim them for help-mates. (Cheers). We don't want any more 'plug hat farmers,' we've one of them in the speaker's chair at Springfield now, and he is no credit to the farming community. (Laughter). What we want is workers, educated, trained, scientific workers, able and willing with their own strong arms to develop the resources of our own state, to develop our soil, to bring up our untold wealth of mineral deposits, to build our railroads, to manufacture our machinery, to make our laws—in a word, to help us do our work, and do it in the best possible manner. I tell you, young ladies and gentlemen, it is not genius that we need, though I bow down before it; it is not talent, though I honor it; it is not intellect, though I appreciate it; it is more of the rank and file of the intelligent, upright, conscientious, God-fearing hard-working men and women, that our country needs. (Cheers).

"We have plenty of impractical genius; we have an abundance of smart men; sometimes I think we have entirely too many, but there can never be a surplus of honest, upright, hard-working men and women. I belong to that class myself, and I don't find myself the least bit crowded."

Dr. Stewart was the first to offer a resolution in the state legislature for the purpose of making or enacting a law in regard to interstate commerce and from the idea of his resolution, no doubt, the well known Inter-State Commerce laws were made, for it must be remembered, that the Hon. Shelby M. Cullom was speaker during the last two years of Dr. Stewart's term, and that it was during this time that the question was agitated in our state legislature, and that as soon as Mr. Cullom was elected to the United States senate, he brought forward the act which is the National Inter-State Commerce Law, at this time, and that it is very largely founded on the same resolution as was offered by Dr. Stewart, while he was a member. A reference to the public records will prove this assertion.

Dr. Stewart having been surgeon of the 94th Regiment always took great interest in the soldiers, and was in great demand as a speaker at the reunions. One of his greatest speeches which he made on an occasion of that kind was at Heyworth on August 22, 1889. It was the annual reunion of his regiment and he was the principal speaker of the day, and said in part: * * * When the call was made for 300,000 more troops in 1862, it was felt that now, indeed, the country demanded her very best. Not regiments of college students off on a frolic to finish the war as a pastime, not the drift wood of society carried along on the crest of the wave which swept over the country when the 'shot heard round the world' was fired at Ft. Sumter, but that large, conservative, well-balanced, substantial class of citizens who now felt called upon to reluctantly lay aside the arts of peace, and reversing the order of scripture, beat their plowshares into swords and their pruning hooks into bayonets to put down this unholy assault upon the

Nation's existence. These were the men who read the call for more troops, and went quietly home to talk with their wives and little ones of the duty now devolving upon them to lay upon their country's altar as their heroic forefathers had done before, their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. I think I hazard nothing in saying, without any reflection upon those who entered the service before or after, that the men who enlisted in the autumn of 1862 were the very flower of our population. * * * To us had been committed the honor of McLean county; that great fertile and prosperous empire, being directly in the heart of the best state in the Union, larger than some of the states of the kingdoms of the old world and producing each year enough food to support a million people, and we were her representatives. And so the tear of parting was dried by the glow of patriotic pride as we turned our faces toward the field of battle. Many a wife and mother on that day of parting laid upon her country's altar her most precious offering, and there were sacrifices unequalled by ancient Greece or Rome, made by the heroic women of McLean county. Twenty-seven years have left but little more than half of the McLean county regiment above the sod. At each anniversary like this we miss the sight of some familiar face and the grasp of some comrade's hand. Let us, admonished by the shortening chain which binds us together, cherish still more tenderly the friends we have left, looking forward not far distant now, when we too shall answer the grim roll call upon the shores of time."

After retiring from the legislature the Doctor made a trip to Europe, visiting all its principal countries and cities. He spent eight years in the office of the circuit court in Bloomington, and at one time during the absence of Superintendent Hull, he for several months, acted as county superintendent of schools.

Dr. Stewart was a frequent contributor to the Pantagraph, and was for several months regularly employed as a writer on its staff.

He was for many years the secretary of the Bloomington Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and took great interest in its growth and welfare.

He was a member of the Wm. T. Sherman Post, G. A. R., of Bloomington, and always enjoyed his associations with that body.

Dr. Stewart was liberal in his religious views, but was of a reverential nature, and contributed liberally to the religious work in his neighborhood, and was for a number of years the superintendent of a Union Sunday school at Wesley Chapel.

He took a great interest in the McLean County Historical Society and was a constant attendant upon its meetings. He read a number of papers before that body, and they were always charming in style, diction and thought, and would have graced the pages of many of our magazines. His paper on Gardner Randolph, published in the "War Record" is one of the best in that book. His paper on Capt. A. M. Stringfield was equally good. He had, at the request of the Society prepared papers on Gov. John Moore and on Dr. Harrison Noble, which were very interesting.

McLean county has produced few men who were in more demand than he, as a speaker on all occasions, such as political gatherings, Old Settlers' meetings, Fourth of July celebrations and social gatherings. Being well read on all subjects and one of the best educated men in the county, made him a natural impromptu speaker on all such occasions, and no one ever saw him rise to speak that he did not immediately catch the audience, and put them in the very best of humor in a few minutes, and he did it seemingly, without the least effort on his part. Probably the great success in this line was due to the fact that he always had something to say, and always impressed his audience with his very great sincerity. He was earnest, quick, sympathetic, underscoring his words, as it were with original gestures, a shrugging of the shoulders, a wave of the hand, original, fresh, bright and piquant, he was a delightful conversationalist. He was a man who always attracted attention, and did it without ever intending to do so, for if there ever was a really modest man, Dr. Stewart was that man.

Dr. Stewart owned a fine farm of 280 acres where his homestead was located, which is one of the historic places of the county, and he always took great interest in farming and agricultural matters, very much enjoying the quiet of country life.

In 1896 Dr. Stewart and wife moved to Bloomington where he was allowed to enjoy life 'till early in 1899, when his asthmatic trouble took on a seri-

ous form, which resulted in dropsy and a number of other complications which finally caused his death on April 4 of that year. The funeral was held two days later and he was laid to rest in the cemetery on his home place.

In the death of Dr. Stewart the county really lost one of her greatest men. He was thoroughly optimistic, believed the best of everybody and everything, was really a man among men, and his memory will long be cherished by those who knew him and loved him the most.—Jonathan Merriam.

The Patton-Pierson Residence in 1832.

This, the oldest continuously inhabited residence in McLean county, stands on a beautiful grassy knoll near Selma, in the N. E. corner of the S. W. quarter of Sec. 22 in Lexington township right in the center of the old Kickapoo Indian town. Just to the west of it is a spring and a few rods farther on a small creek and just beyond that an Indian burial ground. In March, 1829, John Patton came upon this old town and finding the Indians away on their winter hunt took possession of two of the best wigwams. In a few days the Indians returned and ordered him out but he refused to go and finally pacified the Indian owner by mending his gun.

Patton immediately went to work getting out logs for a house of his own and June 10, 1829, he was ready for a house raising. These were great occasions among the pioneers which everybody within a day's journey attended, ten white men were present at this raising. Some of the heavy logs being too much for the whites the Indians took hold and helped raise the house and undoubtedly participated in the feast that always accompanied such an occasion. The sole survivor of that raising is John J. Henline, now 88 years old. In the summer of 1832, during the excitement of the Black Hawk war, the west part of this building was erected as a block house for protection against the Indians of which there was a large settlement some eight or ten miles north. There were four of these block houses in the then limits of McLean county, one near Clarksville in Money Creek township, the Patton one, the Henline stockade in the S. W. corner of Lawndale township, and one in the vicinity of Fairbury. Both of these Patton buildings were made of large logs hewed on the inside and out, the roofs covered with split shingles four feet long, held in place by weight poles. That part erected in 1829 had a stick chimney plastered inside and out with clay and a fire-place six feet wide, a puncheon floor on each side, a window and a battened door made of straight pieces split out of big black walnut logs, pinned together with wooden pins. It is doubtful if there was a dime's worth of iron used in the original construction of either house. The block house had no openings in it except a battened door in the east end. In addition to the ordinary latch this had a heavy bar to more securely fasten it. It also had a row of port holes through which the besieged could fire upon any attacking party. After the defeat of Black Hawk this block part was converted into a residence like that erected in 1829. In 1840 Patton made great improvements on the house, took out the puncheon floors, threw away the clapboard roof with its weight poles and tore down the stick chimneys. The new flooring was matched oak and is there today apparently in as good condition as when it was put down. The roof was shingled with walnut and oak shingles and two big brick fire-places put in; the space between the two houses roofed over, and the whole house all weather boarded with walnut siding. As it now stands the house is 50x18 feet and about 9 feet high. The sleepers are young white oak 8 or 10 inches through, hewed on one side, the joists overhead are oak, 4x6, hewed out with the broad ax; those in the east room are beaded; the windows, 8x10 glass in walnut frames. The doors were battened walnut and oak with one exception, a panel door made of pine out of material hauled from Chicago. In the corners were large walnut cupboards and small ones over the mantle pieces. Overhead were racks on which to put poles to dry the pumpkins, and also hooks on which to hang beef to dry and an arrangement to suspend the quilting bars and the racks for the rifles, an essential equipment of the pioneer. This is one of the most interesting pioneer structures in the county. Mr. Patton resided in it until his death in 1852. In 1855 it was sold to Mr. James S. Pierson, who occupied it until his death about two years ago, and it now owned by his heirs, substantially as it was rebuilt by Mr. Patton in 1840. The picture is drawn from descriptions furnished by Mr. A.

V. Pierson, aided by a recent photograph.

Charles Truckenbrod.

Charles Truckenbrod was born in 1857 in St. Louis. His parents moved to Bloomington in 1858, where his father went into the grocery business, in which business he remained until the time of his death in 1865. Charles spent all of his boyhood days in Bloomington.

In 1884 he was married to Nettie Haynes, of Hudson. To them were born four children: John C., Blanche, Alta Marie, and Edna, who died in infancy. In 1886 he moved onto a farm two miles east of Hudson, where he is successfully engaged in farming. He now owns 205 acres of land and farms about 300 acres. He became interested in the school work and served as school director twelve years.

Martha P. Ward.

Martha P. Ward, the daughter of James and Mary W. Tompkins, was born in Hamilton, N. Y., September 26, 1824, received a thorough education in the common schools of New York, came with her parents to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1842. She taught school for two years with great success, and in 1844 was married to Jay N. Ward. They had six children: John N., Mary T., Albert J., Frances A., Charles H. and Martha A.

Brought up in the vicinity of Garret Smith, Dea Tompkins and his family were strongly anti-slavery, Dea Tompkins and Mr. Ward being two of the sixteen in McLean county that voted for the Free Soil ticket in 1848. When the family came here the Congregational church was the anti-slavery church of the county and Dea Tompkins and his family joined that church, on the suspension of services, of that church in Bloomington, Mrs. Ward joined the Second Presbyterian church with which she has ever since been connected. She was one of the organizers of the Ladies' Library Association and for nearly thirty years was one of the executive board of that association, and its successor, the Bloomington Library. She was one of the most efficient library workers in the city. But for her efforts and those of a few noble women like her, the library would have failed. The amount of work performed by the ladies of Bloomington in the support of the library for many years was very great. To their incessant and unselfish labors, Bloomington largely owes the high character it enjoys for intelligence, morality, and artistic culture. Mrs. Ward is a ready writer, and is very graphic in her recital of the pioneer days.

Carlon Cook Aldrich.

Carlon Cook Aldrich was born at Swanzey, N. H., October 2, 1829. He was educated at the country schools of his native town and later at the Green Mountain Institute at Woodstock, Vermont. At the age of 21 he shipped on a fishing schooner out of Boston and spent several months on it until shipwrecked and taken back to port. He was married to L. Amanda Wilson of Swanzey, N.H., Nov. 6, 1854, and went to housekeeping in New York, where in connectnion with a partner he engaged in the manufacture of pails. Later he went to Dubuque, Iowa, and sold farming implements for a time. August 5, 1860, he located in business at McLean, Ill., and soon became the leading business man in the southwestern part of the county, engaged in the grain, lumber and banking business. He moved to Bloomington in 1892 and built an elegant residence on Franklin Square. His children are Carrie, wife of Dr. A. Ten Brock, of Parsons, Kans., Agnes, wife of Harry M. Palmer, of McLean, Ill., and Frank W. Aldrich, of Bloomington, who has the active management of the business at McLean.

David Felmley.

David Felmley was born on a farm near Somerville, N. J., April 24, 1857. When he was but three years of age his father died. His early education was left with his mother who sent him to the public school in Somerville.

In 1868 the family moved west and settled on a farm near Perry, Pike county, Illinois. Here the remainder of his boyhood was spent in a home well provided with books and periodicals.

In 1873 he enrolled at Blackburn University, Carlinville, Illinois, where he remained three years, devoting most of his time to the study of the

classics and mathematics. He next entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was graduated in three years. Mr. Felmley's experience as a public school teacher included one year in a country school east of Virden and ten years as principal and superintendent at Carrollton, Illinois.

He came to Normal in 1890 and took charge of the mathematical department of the Illinois State Normal University.

In June, 1900, upon the retirement of President Arnold Tompkins, Mr. Felmley was promoted to the presidency of the University.

Mr. Felmley has been prominent in institute work and in movements looking to modification of our school laws. His addresses advocating free text books, and a larger state school fund have been given a wide circulation by the Illinois State Teachers' Association.

President Felmley is a member of the executive committee of the National Society for the Scientific Study of Education, and an active member of the National Educational Association.

He is also president of the Illinois State Teachers' Association.

Addenda and Errata to Vol. I.

Transactions McLean Historical Society.

Page 10—William Gee should be William McGee. Was born in N. C. Came to McLean county in 1828. Was father-in-law of Lawson Downes

William McCullough, grandfather of William McCullough, Lieut. Col. 4th Ills. Cav., a native of Baltimore, Mr. Enlisted in Rawlings, Md., Regt. Was present at battle of Savannah. Was Corp. in Capt. Daniel Mazysk's 9 under Col. Francis Marion, Gen. Lincoln Brig. Oct. 9, 1777. Moved to McLean county, Illinois, in 1826. Died Nov. 23, 1832, buried in private cemetery in Dry Grove township.

Page 10—Cassel Banks was buried in Dawson cemetery, Dawson township.

Page 13—Col. James Johnson was from Macon county.

Page 13—Bailey Kimber should be Bailey Kimler. John Landy should be John Lundy.

Page 13—Joseph Draper, private in Capt. Covell's company, met his death at Stillman's defeat in the following manner, as related by John Lundy and Thomas O. Rutledge to the late Enoch J. Passwaters: "My father, Parnell Passwaters, loaned Lundy a horse for this service. When Lundy returned from the service he and other members of the company said Joseph Draper lost his life in the following manner: He lost his horse and John Lundy took him upon his horse. While on the retreat they found a stray horse and Draper wanted to get off and ride it. Lundy told him to stay where he was, that his horse was large and strong and would carry them both. But Draper insisted, got off and mounted the stray horse. It had no bridle, but it was supposed the horse would follow the others, but instead, it turned around and ran to the Indians who shot Draper, who crawled off into the bushes where he was found by the burying party. Draper was a single man, about 22 or 23 years of age."

On page 451 of Vol. 1, Allin street, named for James Allin, was omitted from the article on "Street Names in Bloomington."

Crammer street was also omitted..

A large number of new streets have been laid out within the last few years and the historical significance of their names should be given in some future volume.

The biographical sketch of Dr. H. Schroeder, indexed as page 525, should be page 529.

The biographical sketch of James Scott Pierson should have been indexed as page 525.

Page 244—The County Commissioners' Court for 1841 consisted of William C. Johnston, Henry I. Clark and James R. Dawson.

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